

Special Issue

Functional Biopolymer-Based Hydrogels

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues Research on the development of new hydrogels with specific functionalities based on polymers from natural sources is presently outstanding due to the increasing environmental concerns. Hydrogels find applicability in diverse fields such as biomedicine, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics, agriculture, purification of waste-water, soil remediation, etc. The resulting biopolymer-based hydrogels are highly appreciated not only due to their high hydrophilicity, inherent biocompatibility, and biodegradability, but also due to their reactive pendant groups that turn them into tunable functional hydrogels. This Special Issue is aimed at collecting the most recent advances in research concerning functional biopolymer-based hydrogels for different application fields, including those focused on the chemistry of functionalization of the biopolymers, the synthesis and development procedures, and the characterization of the hydrogels in the form of original papers, short communications, and review articles.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 August 2020)



Polymers

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.9
CiteScore 9.7
Indexed in PubMed



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Since its foundation in 2009, *Polymers* has developed into an internationally renowned, extremely successful open access journal. The editorial team and the editorial board dedicatedly combine open-access publishing and high-quality rigorous peer reviewing. The performance of the journal has proven this strategy to be well-suited and highly successful. This is reflected in the increasing impact factor of *Polymers*, the most recent one being 4.7.

I would like to invite you to contribute to the success of the journal by sending us your high quality research papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker

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