

Special Issue

Current Trends and Advances in Stimuli-Responsive Polymers and Hydrogels

Message from the Guest Editors

One of the basic processes of living organisms is response to stimuli. Using this fundamental, natural process as a basis, scientists have long been involved in the development of novel materials that respond to external stimuli. Progress in medicine today heavily relies on the development of new systems to detect and treat pathological events during the early stages with minimal side effects. In this respect, stimuli-responsive systems are of particular interest, as response to external stimuli represents an important property in medical applications. A large variety of stimuli-responsive polymers has been developed to serve diagnostic and therapeutic processes, and this field continues to grow. Understanding the structure–property relationships of new stimuli-responsive materials is highly essential for rational design with targeted applications in medicine. For this Special Issue, “Current Trends and Advances in Stimuli-Responsive Polymers and Hydrogels”, we will consider manuscripts that deal with synthesis methodologies, structure–property relationships, and biomedical applications of stimuli-responsive polymers.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 July 2021)



Polymers

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.9
CiteScore 11.0
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 4.9.

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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