Special Issue

Molecular Spectroscopy-Based Targeted Detection

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue invites contributions encompassing, but not limited to, the following themes:

- Developing novel in vivo and in vitro detection strategies using infrared, Raman, UV-Vis, fluorescence, and other molecular spectroscopy techniques.
- Creating specific sensing platforms for disease biomarkers such as nucleic acids, proteins, metabolites, circulating tumor cells, and pathogens.
- Designing and synthesizing targeted probes, including organic dyes, rare-earth nanomaterials, SERS-active substrates, quantum dots, polymer-based sensors, and biomolecular assemblies.
- Enhancing detection sensitivity, specificity, signal-tonoise ratio, and resolution through novel spectroscopic methods or computational approaches.
- Integrating spectroscopic detection with therapeutic strategies such as photodynamic, photothermal, gene, or immuno-therapies for theranostic applications.
- Discovering new biomarker targets and related signaling pathways for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes.
- Engineering multifunctional detection systems to improve analytical performance and facilitate clinical translation.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Zhuo Chen

Prof. Dr. Dingbin Liu

Prof. Dr. Ping Li

Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 June 2026



Targets

an Open Access Journal by MDPI



mdpi.com/si/260859

Targets
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
targets@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/targets





Targets

an Open Access Journal by MDPI



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Targets is an Open access journal devoted to the fast publication of the latest achievements in bio-detection and therapy. It provides important supports for the development of the related interdisciplinary areas of chemistry, life science, biomedicine, material science, and environment science, particularly in new drug development, disease diagnosis, early warning and targeted therapy, life process study, food and environment safety monitoring, quality control of products, forensic medicine, and even anti-terrorism.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Huangxian Ju

State Key Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry for Life Science, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210023. China

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 24.8 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.7 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

Recognition of Reviewers:

APC discount vouchers, optional signed peer review, and reviewer names published annually in the journal.

