

Special Issue

Advances of Medical Textiles

Message from the Guest Editors

Medical textiles are an emerging interdisciplinary field, positioned among conventional textile technologies— weaving, knitting, embroidery—and other scientific fields such as chemistry, medical science, pharmaceuticals and electrical engineering. Medical textiles are an advanced branch of technical textiles, offering much more than commodities. Textile manufacturing processes are adapted- and/or integrated with other processing technologies with the capacity to form composite structures with different levels of complexity in terms of composition and architecture, such as coating, lithography, and 3D/ink-jet printing. Such an integrative approach can elicit the “smart” function into the fabrics to sense and respond to electrical, mechanical, chemical, thermal, optical, or magnetic stimuli, to deliver drugs in a predictable and controlled manner, to provide high mechanical resistance (sutures, heart valve prosthesis, hernia and incontinence meshes), selectivity (blood filtration), and much more.

Guest Editors

Dr. Selestina Gorgieva

Institute of Engineering Materials and Design, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Maribor, Smetanova 17, 2000 Maribor, Slovenia

Dr. Andrea Zille

2C2T-Centre for Textile Science and Technology, University of Minho, Campus of Azure, 4800-058 Guimarães, Portugal

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Prof. Dr. Philippe Boisse
INSA-Lyon, LaMCoS CNRS, Université de Lyon, F-69621 Lyon, France

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