

Special Issue

Pharmaceuticals in the Aquatic Environment: Monitoring, Impacts and Ecological Risk

Message from the Guest Editor

Pharmaceuticals are essential for human and animal health. However, after their use, these compounds are generally rapidly excreted, mainly in faeces and urine, as water-soluble metabolites. These often reach wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs), where, in addition to not being eradicated, some become active compounds with harmful effects on aquatic species and ecosystems. Moreover, unused pharmaceuticals can cause a severe risk if they reach the environment due to improper disposal. Ultimately, parental compounds or their metabolites may affect humans and domestic animals via drinking water and the ingestion of its byproducts in meat, animal feed, and dairy plant crops, among others. This aspect may cause undesirable health issues for humans and animals. In this Special Issue, we aim to collate studies referring to the environmental presence and impact of pharmaceuticals, such as hormones, antibiotics, antidepressants, anti-inflammatories and analgesics, beta-blockers, and anticancer medications, ideally offering a global panorama of the contamination of aquatic abiotic and biotic matrices and its impacts on both animal and human health.

Guest Editor

Dr. Maria João Rocha

Institute of Biomedical Sciences Abel Salazar and Interdisciplinary Centre for Marine and Environmental Research, University of Porto, 4050 313 Porto, Portugal

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (28 February 2025)



Toxics

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.1
CiteScore 6.4
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/178719

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

mdpi.com/journal/toxics





Toxics

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.1
CiteScore 6.4
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/
toxics](https://mdpi.com/journal/toxics)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Toxics (ISSN 2305-6304) is an international, peer-reviewed, open access journal which provides an advanced forum for studies related to all aspects of toxic chemicals and materials. We aim to publish high quality work that furthers our understanding of the exposure, effects, and risks of chemicals and materials in humans and the natural environment as well as approaches to assess and/or manage the toxicological and ecotoxicological risks of chemicals and materials. Please consider publishing in *Toxics* when preparing your next paper.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Demetrio Raldúa
Department Environmental Chemistry, IDAEA-CSIC, Jordi Girona 18,
08034 Barcelona, Spain

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, Embase, CAPlus / SciFinder, AGRIS, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Toxicology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Chemical Health and Safety)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 1.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).