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Ribosome Inactivating Toxins

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Ribosome inactivating proteins (RIPs) form a vast family of hundreds of toxins from plants, fungi, algae and bacteria. RIP activities have also been detected in animal tissues.

Tremendous progress has been made in their detection, identification and characterization. However, the pathophysiologies of these intoxications seem much more complicated than being solely linked to cell death and are still far from being understood. There are no commercially available products to specifically prevent or block RIP action.

RIPs have been engineered into immunotoxins. Numerous clinical trials have shown great promise, as well as the difficulties in developing such therapies to destroy cancer cells.

This Special Issue of *Toxins* presents the most recent data on all the aspects of RIPs: new RIPs, structure, function, mechanism of action, pathophysiology, anti-RIP drug development and RIP engineering into anticancer treatments.

Prof. Dr. Daniel Gillet
Dr. Julien Barbier
Guest Editors

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Toxinology is an incredibly diverse area of study, ranging from field surveys of environmental toxins to the study of toxin action at the molecular level. The editorial board and staff of *Toxins* are dedicated to providing a timely, peer-reviewed outlet for exciting, innovative primary research articles and concise, informative reviews from investigators in the myriad of disciplines contributing to our knowledge on toxins. We are committed to meeting the needs of the toxin research community by offering useful and timely reviews of all manuscripts submitted. Please consider *Toxins* when submitting your work for publication.

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