Special Issue

Staphylococcus aureus Toxins Presence and Detection in Human, Animals and Food

Message from the Guest Editors

Staphylococcus aureus is a highly versatile pathogen. *S. aureus* is also an important food-borne pathogen. Staphylococcal food poisoning is caused by the ingestion of food containing one or more preformed enterotoxins (SEs) produced by S. aureus. There are several classes of enterotoxins, as well as new types of enterotoxins and staphylococcal-like proteins. *S. aureus* SEH toxins have clearly been involved in food poisoning outbreaks, whereas *S. aureus* SEG, SEI, SER, SES, and SET are involved in more or less emetic outbreaks, with a possible incidence in food safety. TSST-1, the toxic shock staphylococcal toxin, lacks emetic activity. TSST-1 causes toxic shock syndrome (TSS), a potentially fatal condition. The symptoms include high fever, rash, the desquamation of the skin one to two weeks after onset, hypotension, and the failure of multiple organs. *S. aureus* and its toxins can also cause severe animal diseases, such as suppurative disease, arthritis, and urinary tract infections. This pathogen and its toxins are also frequent causative agents of clinical or subclinical mastitis in ruminants.

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

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