Special Issue Adenylate Cyclase (CyaA) Toxin

Message from the Guest Editor

The adenylate cyclase (CyaA) toxin is produced by Bordetella pertussis, the causative agent of whooping cough. The incidence of pertussis is currently increasing and represents a global public health concern. Bordetella pertussis, a Gram-negative bacteria, was identified by Jules Bordet and Octave Gengou. During the last few decades, multidisciplinary approaches have contributed to improve our knowledge on CyaA and showed that this toxin plays a crucial role in the early stages of respiratory tract colonization by disrupting the host immune response. CvaA is a 1706-residue long. multi-domain and bifunctional toxin. This toxin is the unique well-characterized bacterial toxin able to translocate its catalytic domain directly across the plasma membrane of target cells. The molecular mechanism by which CyaA intoxicates host cells remains, however, largely unknown. Recent advances worldwide open new perspectives for both basic sciences and CvaA-based biotechnological applications. These various aspects are discussed in the Toxins on the adenylate cyclase toxin.

Guest Editor

Dr. Alexandre Chenal

Unité de Biochimie des Interactions Macromoléculaires, CNRS UMR 3528, Département de Biologie Structurale et Chimie, Institut Pasteur, 28 rue du Dr Roux, 75724 Paris cedex 15, France

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

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Prof. Dr. Jay Fox Department of Microbiology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, USA

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