Special Issue

Insights into Fish Venoms

Message from the Guest Editors

The production of toxins by fish is an important strategy that guarantees their survival in a highly competitive ecosystem. Venomous fish produce a distinct combination of toxic components, including peptides and proteins with particular noxious characteristics. Venomous fish have been studied to learn more about the pathophysiology of the envenomation in humans and to identify the biochemical nature of their toxins. Recently, investigations of cellular and molecular mechanisms adjacent to fish envenoming have mapped genes and receptors in innate cells that recognize these molecules and, consequently, new pharmacological targets. Furthermore, the identification of new protein families in fish venoms and their characterization as molecules that are responsible for immune defense, signaling, and development have challenged old notions on their role as a toxin. Today, there is great interest from the pharmaceutical industry in exploring molecules derived from venomous fish for drug development. This Special Issue aims to collate the current scholarly work on fish venoms from active scholars and researchers.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2024)

Toxins

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.0
CiteScore 8.2
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/175918

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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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