Special Issue

New Insights into the Diversity, Structure, Function and Evolution of Pore-Forming Toxins

Message from the Guest Editor

Pore-forming proteins (PFPs) are found in all kingdoms of life and are involved in host–pathogen interactions. In most cases, they are used as pore-forming toxins (PFTs) to either attack and invade other organisms or defend against them. As such, they can be found in many pathogenic bacteria as well as in animal venom. However, those that do not act as toxins are involved in other physiological processes, such as the proper functionality of the immune system, neuronal development, or the digestion of food. PFPs are a broad class of molecules that comprise various families, structural folds, and assembly pathways. A comparison between the types of PFTs reveals that the pore-forming domain is a common module, yet the receptor-binding domain is highly variable. The focus of this Special Issue of Toxins will be on all aspects of pore-forming toxins, presenting the latest discoveries regarding their diversity, structure, function, and evolution, to provide readers with an up-to-date and comprehensive picture of this exciting area of research.

Guest Editor

Dr. Dušan Kordiš
Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Josef Stefan Institute, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 May 2024)

Toxins

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.0
CiteScore 8.2
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/179961

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

mdpi.com/journal/toxins

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

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

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