Special Issue

Animal Toxins and Biological Ion Channels

Message from the Guest Editors

Ion channels account for the action potential of excitable cells and their malfunction is implicated in many diseases. As such, they form an important drug target. For example, the calcium channel Cav2.2 and the sodium channel Nav1.7 are targets for analgesics, whereas the potassium channel Kv1.3 is a target for immunosuppressants. Many short peptides isolated from venomous animals, such as scorpions, cone snails, and spiders, are potent and specific modulators of certain channels. Those peptides are promising drug scaffolds and understanding their mechanisms-of-action is of critical importance to the development of novel venom-based drugs. This Special Issue aims to bring together studies that advance our understanding of the detailed interactions between venom peptides and ion channels. Both computational and experimental studies are welcome.

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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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