Special Issue

New Perspectives and Uses of Ribosome-Inactivating Toxins and Related Lectins of Plant Origin

Message from the Guest Editors

Plant ribosome-inactivating proteins (RIPs) belong to well-characterized EC 3.2.2.22 N glycosidases toxins, which irreversibly and specifically depurinate a single adenosine in the a-SRL of rRNA in eukaryotic cells. Apoptosis of affected cells has been also related to DNA damage. RIP-based drugs, immunotoxins, chimeric fusions, use of nucleic acids encoding the toxin domain (suicide gene therapy), engineered micro–nanoparticles, dendrimers, or targeted exosomes have been not only used against hematological and solid tumors but also as antiviral diseases, such as AIDS. This Special Issue will cover all these strategies but focusing on the use of nanotechnology as a powerful strategy to increase the tumor penetration capability of RIPs as therapeutic agents or increase effectiveness of antiviral formulations.

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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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