Special Issue

Venom and Pain

Message from the Guest Editor

Venom generally induces pathological conditions and symptoms (e.g., pain and paralysis) and even deaths in animals and humans. However, the venom itself or specific toxins and molecules (e.g., peptides and enzymes) contained in venoms can be used to treat a wide range of intractable diseases. Pain relief is a major challenge in the current health care system. The market of pain killers is becoming close to the market of anticancer drugs. Although many efforts have been made, the development of specific analgesic drugs is still limited. Opioids, antidepressants, and anticonvulsants are being prescribed for patients with pathological pain, but they have their own adverse effects. In this regard, venoms and their compounds may have potential to treat pathological pain, as recent scientific reports have suggested. This Special Issue is devoted to understanding the analgesic mechanisms of venoms and their components in all scientific aspects (e.g., pharmacology, neuroscience, immunology, cellular/molecular biology, electrophysiology, and ion channels and receptors).

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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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