

Special Issue

Interspecific Interactions between Protozoan Parasites and their Hosts and Neighbors

Message from the Guest Editors

The host–parasite–microbiota interactions are complex; if, on the one hand, protozoan infections affect the composition of the mucosal microbiota, on the other hand, specific components of the microbiota can affect the parasitic infection and the progression of the diseases caused by them. Therefore, understanding the biology, ultrastructure and dynamics of these host–parasite, parasite–microbiota and host–parasite–microbiota relationships can favor the development of therapeutic strategies to combat these life-threatening pathogenic protozoa. This Special Issue will cover various aspects of the host–parasite–microbiota interplay under three main topics: (1) the relationship between protozoan parasites and host cells (e.g., cellular and molecular biology of protozoan interactions with target tissues/cells, interactions with the host immune system, and the life cycle during host colonization); (2) parasitic protozoa and their relationship with the microbiological world (fungi, viruses, bacteria and other protozoa); and (3) the relationship between protozoan parasites and the niche where they live within the host.

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