Special Issue

Protein- and Subunit-Based Vaccines

Message from the Guest Editors

Protein- or subunit-based vaccines comprise whole proteins or portions of them, such as epitopes, that have been specifically chosen for their capacity to stimulate an immune response. Traditional vaccines based on whole-pathogen have been effective in preventing many infectious diseases. However, traditional vaccines have some limitations regarding security issues as many of them need to be produced in high-level biosafety facilities, implying substantial manufacturing costs. As an alternative, protein- and subunit-based vaccines can be produced using recombinant expression systems, focusing only on the specific portion of the pathogen that triggers the immune response. They often need a substance or component that elicits a more potent humoral or cellular immune response. Different components have been used as adjuvants, and other approaches have been applied to deliver and present proteins and epitopes to the immune system. This Special Issue focuses on protein- and subunit-based vaccines, including preclinical and clinical studies, alternative delivery and display approaches, formulation optimization, and production strategies.

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Vaccines (ISSN 2076-393X) has had a 6-year history of publishing peer-reviewed state of the art research that advances the knowledge of immunology in human disease protection. Immunotherapeutics, prophylactic vaccines, immunomodulators, adjuvants and the global differences in regulatory affairs are some of the highlights of the research published that have shaped global health. Our open access policy allows all researchers and interested parties to immediately scrutinize the rigorous evidence our publications have to offer. We are proud to present the work and perspectives of many to contribute to future decisions concerning human health.

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