

## Special Issue

# Acute-Phase Proteins in Animals

### Message from the Guest Editors

Inflammation is one of the key biological defense responses to pathogenic microorganism infections, physical irritation, and chemical contact. Acute-phase proteins are important indicators of acute inflammation. Acute-phase proteins, such as C-reactive protein (CRP), serum amyloid A (SAA),  $\alpha_1$  acid glycoprotein (AAG), haptoglobin (Hp), and  $\alpha_2$ -macroglobulin ( $\alpha_2$ M), have been used as biomarkers of acute inflammation. The serum levels of these acute-phase proteins are known to increase in a variety of diseases or conditions, such as *Bordetella bronchiseptica* or *Ehrlichia canis* infection, surgical trauma, and gastrointestinal bleeding. Acute-phase protein fluctuations reflect the animal's condition and are widely used in veterinary medicine. The purpose of this Special Issue is to clarify the usefulness of acute-phase proteins in nonclinical studies or veterinary clinical practices. Such studies can significantly improve their role as indicators of acute inflammation and may provide benefits in the treatment of more diseases. In particular, by accumulating evidence in veterinary clinical practice, it is possible to further increase the usefulness of these acute proteins.

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Veterinary Sciences (ISSN 2306-7381) is an international and interdisciplinary scholarly open access journal that aims at publishing research in all fields of veterinary medicine in a democratic way. We encourage scientists to publish their original research articles, reviews, communications, and short notes in as much detail as possible. Articles submitted that involve subjecting animals to unnecessary pain or suffering will not be accepted, and all articles must be submitted with the necessary ethical approval (please refer to the Ethical Guidelines for more information).

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