Special Issue

Retroviral Enzymes

Message from the Guest Editor

The retroviral RNA genome encodes for three enzymes essential for virus replication: (i) the viral protease (PR), that converts the immature virion into a mature virus through the cleavage of precursor polypeptides; (ii) the reverse transcriptase (RT), responsible for the conversion of the single-stranded genomic RNA into double-stranded proviral DNA; and (iii) the integrase (IN) that inserts the proviral DNA into the host cell genome. All of them are important targets for therapeutic intervention. Knowledge on their structure and mechanism of action should help us to design better drugs against AIDS and other diseases caused by retroviruses. Dr. Luis Menéndez-Arias

Guest Editor

Dr. Luis Menéndez-Arias

Centro de Biología Molecular "Severo Ochoa", Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, c/ Nicolás Cabrera 1, Campus de Cantoblanco, 28049 Madrid, Spain

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Viruses
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Eric O. Freed

HIV Dynamics and Replication Program, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD 21702-1201, USA

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