



Bispecific Antibodies-Opportunities and Challenges

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Bispecific antibodies are increasingly becoming instrumental for diagnostic and therapeutic applications. While natural antibodies are monospecific, bispecific antibodies can bind two different epitopes, either on the same or on different antigens. Initially, bispecific antibodies were generated by chemical conjugation of two monoclonal antibodies or by fusion of two antibody-producing hybridomas. Later, a diverse toolkit of antibody engineering approaches enabled the development of recombinant bispecific antibodies of remarkable diversity in structural, functional, and pharmacological properties. Presently, more than 100 different formats for making bispecific antibodies exist, of which about 30 are in clinical development, suggesting they have successfully met developmental criteria. Applications of bispecific antibodies span the entire range of biomedical applications including diagnosis, imaging, prophylaxis and therapy.

This Special Issue is aimed to provide an up-to date description of the field, including formats, applications, in particular those unique to bispecific antibodies, expression systems and issues related to development.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Antibodies is a relatively new journal with a major focus on quick dissemination of knowledge related to antibodies, especially how to quickly translate basic research results to therapeutic applications. Because it covers all areas related to antibodies unexpected connections between different areas could be made, leading to major discoveries and opening new fields of research and development. This is enhanced by the large readership of the many antibody-related areas of research. A specific priority area is human monoclonal antibodies for therapy of diseases and aging.

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