



Collagen and the Extracellular Matrix

Guest Editors:

Prof. Marcel E. Nimni

Keck School of Medicine,
University of Southern California,
Los Angeles, CA 90033, USA

Dr. George Martin

The National Institute of Dental
and Craniofacial Research NIH,
Bethesda, MD 20814, USA

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Collagen account for around 1/3 of all our body proteins. Since the discovery, 50 years ago, of a new species of collagen in mammalian articular cartilage, 28 distinct members of this family of proteins have been isolated from other tissues. They play a key role in the normal function of all organs. Anomalies of the extracellular matrix are responsible for up to 20% of deaths and essentially no effective interventions are available. The state of the research in this field and future directions are outlined in this volume.

Prof. Marcel E. Nimni

Dr. George Martin

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Editors-in-Chief

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Department of Cellular and
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Health and Medical Sciences,
University of Copenhagen,
Blegdamsvej 3C, DK-2200
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Department of Computer
Science, Virginia Commonwealth
University, Richmond, VA 23284,
USA

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Biomolecules Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
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