



Antimicrobial Peptides: Development, Conjugation, and Beyond

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Message from the Guest Editor

Bacterial resistance means that many researchers are looking for alternatives to currently-used antibiotics. One strategy being explored is to use antimicrobial peptides (AMPs). AMPs are considered to be viable alternatives to currently-used antibiotics, because they have a broad antimicrobial spectrum and since bacteria develop little or no resistance towards them. In addition, AMPs are ubiquitous in nature and are involved in the first line of defense in plants and animals.

Although AMPs are promising, only a few are used for systemic therapy. The number of AMPs currently being used is limited because these compounds often display adverse effects such as unknown toxicity against host cells, short circulation half-life due to protease digestion and rapid kidney clearance.

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