



## Bacterial Protein Toxins: Enemies within or Unexpected Friends

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Bacterial protein toxins are the principal virulence factors of pathogenic bacteria and their production represents one of the main bacterial strategies to interact with mammalian cells. Using diverse and sophisticated mechanisms, bacterial toxins manipulate the host cell functions to suit their own needs, favoring the spreading, colonization, and survival of the microbes. However, toxins play a negative role in human health, not only because implicated in infectious diseases but also because potentially involved in harmful situations, such as cancer development. Under all these aspects, bacterial toxins can certainly be considered as “enemies”.

In this Special Issue of IJMS, the focus will be on bacterial protein toxins pointing to both their pathogenetic strategies and their therapeutic potentials, thus highlighting the Janus aspect of such virulence factors.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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