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# **Calcium Channels as Therapeutic Targets**

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# Message from the Guest Editors

Ion channels are key modulators of intracellular levels of Ca<sup>2+</sup>, which, in turn, is a vital physiological 'second messenger'. Whether modulated through voltage changes, endogenous ligands/protein partners, and/or changes to Ca<sup>2+</sup> levels, different Ca<sup>2+</sup> channel families represent key molecular targets in a range of pathophysiologies that carry a heavy health, well-being, and economic burden. Thus, Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels are major targets in diseases, including pain, epilepsy, neurodegenerative disorders, and neuropsychiatric disorders.

This Special Issue will shed light on new pharmacological agents that modulate different classes of Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels, including voltage-gated and transient receptor potential channels and/or the auxiliary subunits that make up the protein complex. We welcome submissions from diverse fields of studies, including, but not limited to, the development of small molecular entities and biological drugs, the development of toxins from the plant and animal kingdoms, the exploitation of knowledge of Ca<sup>2+</sup> channel structure and function, and genetic studies of channelopathies and disease association.













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