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## Glycomimetics and Glycoconjugates in Drug Discovery

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Glycoconjugates are involved in important biological processes, acting in cell recognition and adhesion events through carbohydrate–protein interactions which are crucial for the recognition of pathogens (viruses, bacteria, parasites) by the host and the progression of infection. Glycoconjugates also play relevant roles in human diseases characterized by abnormal glycosylation, such as in cancer, where aberrant cell surface glycoconjugates contribute to tumor progression and metastasis. Therefore, targeting enzymes that are involved in the glycosylation processes leading to disease-associated glycoconjugates by using glycoconjugate and carbohydrate mimetics as well as developing glycomimetics able to inhibit protein–carbohydrate interactions are promising strategies in drug discovery. Carbohydrate-acting enzymes are also important therapeutic targets for metabolic disorders, such as diabetes and lysosomal diseases, and various glycomimetic-based small-molecule inhibitors have found clinical application.



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