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# **Complement System as a Therapeutic Target**

Guest Editor:

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## **Message from the Guest Editor**

The complement system, the humoral arm of the innate immune system, plays a central role in antimicrobial defense and tissue homeostasis. Since its first description by Bordet and Ehrlich in the late 1890s, thousands of papers and hundreds of reviews detailed the structure and function  $\circ f$ >30 soluble and membrane-bound complement proteins, activation pathways and scores of diseases wherein complement deficiency or undesirable activation are involved in the pathogenesis. For the latter cases, inhibitors of activation at different steps in the chain reaction provide promising therapeutic options, as shown by the preclinical and clinical trials with > 20 drug candidates to date. One goal of this volume is to focus on these approved, currently tested or failed complement inhibitors, whatever public information can be shared by those involved in their development. In addition, the volume gives space to articles dealing with naturally occurring complement inhibitors. Original research data or comprehensive reviews on new developments in complement inhibition are also welcome, to make this volume represent the state-of-the-art in the field.













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