



Understanding the Potential of Host Defense Peptides in Treating Cancer

Guest Editors:

Dr. Melanie R. Power Coombs

Biology, Acadia University,
Wolfville, Canada; and Pathology,
Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS,
Canada

Dr. David W. Hoskin

Departments of Pathology,
Microbiology and Immunology,
and Surgery, Dalhousie
University, Halifax, NS, Canada

Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (30 June 2021)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Cancer is the second leading cause of death globally. The need is urgent to discover novel treatments for cancer that are curative and not associated with considerable toxicity. Identification of suitable drug targets is a major obstacle in cancer treatment strategies. Host defense peptides (HDPs) are biomolecules typically containing several cationic and hydrophobic amino acids that interact with the cell membrane, resulting in anti-microbial, anti-cancer, and immune modulatory activities. Anti-cancer peptides (ACPs) exhibit increased toxicity toward cancer cells compared to normal cells. The structure of ACPs impacts their mechanism of action, so better understanding ACPs will have clinical relevance.

It is my pleasure to invite you and your teams to contribute original research or review articles to this Special Issue. We are especially interested in articles that cover studies on the identification, roles, and molecular mechanisms of action of ACPs, and translational approaches to the use of ACPs of clinical relevance in cancer.





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Peter E. Nielsen

Department of Cellular and
Molecular Medicine, Faculty of
Health and Medical Sciences,
University of Copenhagen,
Blegdamsvej 3C, DK-2200
Copenhagen, Denmark

Prof. Dr. Lukasz Kurgan

Department of Computer
Science, Virginia Commonwealth
University, Richmond, VA 23284,
USA

Message from the Editorial Board

Biomolecules is a multidisciplinary open-access journal that reports on all aspects of research related to biogenic substances, from small molecules to complex polymers. We invite manuscripts of high scientific quality that pertain to the diverse aspects relevant to organic molecules, irrespective of the biological question or methodology. We aim for a competent, fair peer review and rapid publication. Please look at some of the exciting work that has been published in *Biomolecules* so far. We would be delighted to welcome you as one of our authors.

Author Benefits

Open Access: free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility: indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, Embase, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank: JCR - Q1 (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Biochemistry)

Contact Us

Biomolecules Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
www.mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/biomolecules
biomolecules@mdpi.com
[X@Biomol_MDPI](https://twitter.com/Biomol_MDPI)