



Gastrointestinal Hormones

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Message from the Guest Editor

Well over 100 different peptides with hormonal activity are produced and released by specialized epithelial cells (enteroendocrine cells) as well as neurons distributed along gastrointestinal tract. By different mechanisms, the expression of a single hormone gene can result in multiple peptides. Thus, several peptides belonging to the same or different families often coexist in these cells. Gastrointestinal hormones play an integral role in regulating the functions of gastrointestinal tract. Besides their regulatory effects on secretion, absorption, digestion, and gut motility, they also have a fundamental role in gut-brain communication, particularly in the control of food intake and energy homeostasis. In this context, another important player has more recently emerged, the gut microbiota, whose interaction with gastrointestinal hormones seems to have a key role in better understanding the effects of diets and improving the treatment of some intestinal disorders.

The focus of this Special Issue will be on the most recent advances in gastrointestinal hormones, which are an essential component in developing new therapies for metabolic diseases and intestinal disorders.





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