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## Roles of Cytokines in Skin Inflammation

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### Message from the Guest Editor

The skin, the largest organ in the human body, primarily protects against harmful environmental influences and prevents dehydration; thus, it represents the first barrier against physical, biological and chemical stress. To maintain this function, keratinocytes undergo a differentiation process that culminates in the generation of corneocytes. Keratinocytes and other resident skin cells produce cytokines that are responsible for controlling cellular communication. Cytokines are intercellular signalling proteins that serve as key modulators of the immune system and inflammation and initiate their biologic action by interacting with target cells bearing cytokine receptors, initiating a cascade of cellular interactions. Cytokine signalling can result in multiple consequences for the skin's barrier function. Certain inflammatory skin diseases are associated with cytokine overproduction, dysregulation and alteration in their receptors, including atopic dermatitis (AD), allergic contact dermatitis and psoriasis. This Special Issue summarizes the current knowledge on cytokines and their functions in healthy skin and contributions to inflammatory skin diseases.



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**Special** Issue



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