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Dietary Proteases and Bioactive Proteins: Natural Source, Bioactivity and Characterization

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dietary proteases and bioactive proteins, as potential ingredients in health-promoting functional foods targeting diet-related chronic diseases, have attracted increasing attention due to their high biological activities, low toxicity and easy digestibility. According to present knowledge, bovine milk, cheese and dairy products are by far the greatest sources of food-derived proteases and bioactive proteins. However, they can also be obtained from plants, animal and marine sources. Due to their proteolytic activity, proteases play a role in alleviating digestion disorders, and have found application in treating cancers, swelling and immune-modulation problems, as well as mammalian wound healing. In addition to the nutritional functions of general protein, bioactive protein also has several specialized physiological functions, such as their ability to enter the digestive tract in their native states. Numerous bioactivities have been described for peptides released from proteins via enzymatic proteolysis with opiate, antithrombotic, antihypertensive, immunomodulating, antilipemic, osteoprotective, antioxidative, antimicrobial, anticariogenic and growth-promoting properties.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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