



New Insights into the Role of the Renin–Angiotensin System in Disease

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (20 April 2024)

Message from the Guest Editor

Classically, the renin–angiotensin system (RAS) plays an important role in cardiovascular homeostasis. Insights gained from research into the RAS in the last two decades have revealed that several components of the RAS, most notably angiotensin II and angiotensin-converting enzymes (ACEs), serve to promote inflammatory pathways in several diseases, including hypertension, as well as mediating SARS-CoV-2 infection. Angiotensin II, the main effector molecule of the (RAS), has been linked to increases in inflammatory cytokines, such as interleukin-6, thereby promoting and/or enhancing end-organ injury. In addition to its classical role in the enzymatic cleavage of angiotensin I to angiotensin II, ACEs also serve as the biological receptor for SARS-CoV-2. As the role that the RAS plays in disease processes has expanded, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, the aim of this Special Issue is to enhance our knowledge and understanding of the role the RAS plays in immune signaling, cardiovascular disease, as well as SARS-CoV-2 infection. This topic is especially timely as we begin to enter the post-COVID-19 pandemic era.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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