



B Cells and Immunological Tolerance

Guest Editors:

Dr. Marcos López-Hoyos

1. Immunology Service,
University Hospital Marqués de
Valdecilla-IDIVAL, 39008
Santander, Spain

2. Molecular Biology Department,
Universidad de Cantabria, 39005
Santander, Spain

Dr. Ramón Merino

Instituto de Biomedicina y
Biotecnología de Cantabria,
Consejo Superior de
Investigaciones Científicas-
Universidad de Cantabria,
Molecular Biology Department,
Universidad de Cantabria, 39011
Santander, Spain

Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (25 September 2018)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The main goal of the immune system is to protect the body against foreign agents. To achieve this mission, the immune system acquires an advanced degree of specialization that allows it to recognize and neutralize any pathogen and danger signal present in the organism. On the other hand, this high degree of specialization increases the risk of systemic ruptures of the physiological mechanisms controlling immunological tolerance and anomalous or unanticipated responses are induced, as in the case of autoimmune diseases, where some "misguided" immune cells attack their own antigens (autoantigens). To counter these effects, the immune system has established a balanced equilibrium between the effector and the inhibitor mechanisms of the immune response. This issue focuses on tolerance mechanisms affecting B cell responses from the molecular level (microRNA, microbiota...) to the cellular level (apoptosis, Bregs). These are targets for the development of diagnostic and/or therapeutic approaches in human inflammatory, autoimmune or alloimmune processes.

Dr. Marcos López-Hoyos

Dr. Ramón Merino

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of
Odontostomatologic and
Specialized Clinical Sciences,
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of
Medicine, Università Politecnica
delle Marche, Via Ranieri 65,
60100 Ancona, Italy

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*International Journal of Molecular
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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
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