



Molecular Research on Platelet Activity in Health and Disease

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (30 November 2019)

Message from the Guest Editors

Platelets are small anucleated cytoplasmic fragments derived from large megakaryocytes residing in bone marrow that are primarily recognized for their fundamental role in haemostasis and thrombosis. In response to vascular injury, platelets quickly adhere to sub-endothelial matrix proteins, through specific adhesion-signalling receptors whose activation leads to a cascade of events resulting in platelet spreading, granule secretion, aggregation and clot retraction.

To date, a large body of evidence has highlighted the ability of platelets to act as multifunctional cells, which actively influence a widespread range of apparently unrelated patho-physiological events. Platelets, indeed, play a central role in inflammation, an underlying cause in several pathologies (among them cardiovascular disease, obesity, metabolic syndrome and gastrointestinal diseases) as well as in infection, cancer, neurodegeneration and other brain dysfunctions.

For readers, this Special Issue, “**Molecular Research on Platelet Activity in Health and Disease**”, will provide an up-to-date description of the more intriguing aspects of platelet biology, highly relevant to human diseases.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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