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# **Orphan Drugs**

Guest Editor:

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## **Message from the Guest Editor**

We are all familiar with the great problem of rare diseases and of their treatment and cure. "Orphan viruses", for example, which are not linked to a recognized disease, such as hepatitis G, as well as genes, receptors, and enzymes, lead to orphan diseases, which imply two separate but related concepts: (a) diseases that are neglected by doctors and (b) diseases that affect a small number of people. Thus, the term "orphan drugs" describes rare medicinal products intended for diagnosis, prevention or treatment of life-threatening or very serious rare diseases or disorders.

This Topical Collection, "Orphan Drugs", will comprise a selection of research papers and reviews offering knowledge on the development of orphan drugs, rare diseases for which research was successful, rare diseases and their treatment with well-known orphan drugs, new entities inserted in clinical applications, and future perspectives.

Moreover, in vitro and in vivo studies will provide a possible high impact in the development of orphan-drug-based strategies and in the identification of the key biological regulation processes that remain uncovered.













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# **Message from the Editor-in-Chief**

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