



Therapeutic Antibody Development: What Are We Learning along the Way?

Guest Editors:

Dr. Anne Poupon

PRC, INRAe, CNRS, Université de
Tours, INRIA, 37380 Nouzilly,
France

Prof. Dr. Hervé Watier

EA 7501 GICC, Université de
Tours, 37032 Tours, France

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

There is now ample evidence that monoclonal antibodies are very powerful drugs. As the properties needed for an antibody to be a good drug differ from those of natural and even pathogenic antibodies, many new scientific questions have arisen from pharmacological and pharmaceutical questions.

The IgG1 subclass has been largely privileged, but many other natural or engineered heavy-chain isotypes are now available to adapt molecules to the pharmacological or pharmaceutical needs of long half-lives, reduced immunogenicity, reduced or sometimes increased immune activation, etc. A great effort of creativity has led to bi- or multispecific antibodies with totally new properties, bringing antigens, receptors and cells together. Observing and investigating the side effects of antibodies on very large cohorts has revealed off-target side effects, leading to the conclusion that antibodies are not as specific as we thought, reviving the questions of polyreactivity and polyspecificity.

Papers related to any molecular aspects of antibodies, including bioinformatics studies, will be considered for this Special Issue.





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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

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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*International Journal of Molecular
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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
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