

Special Issue

Regulation and Physiopathology of Gut Barrier

Message from the Guest Editors

The intestinal barrier refers to chemical and physical components of the intestinal mucosa, which form a dynamic interface between the gut lumen and the body. The intestinal mucosa ensures an efficient equilibrium between the absorption of nutrients and the prevention of uncontrolled translocation of harmful luminal contents.

Many actors are involved in maintaining an effective gut barrier. The intestinal epithelial cells, through cell-cell contacts and notably the presence of tight junctions, form a physical barrier. Intestinal epithelial cells also contribute to the establishment of a chemical barrier through the secretion into the lumen of mucus, secretory IgA and antimicrobial peptides. The immune cells present in the intestinal mucosa act as an immunological defense and are involved in the education of systemic immune system towards commensal microbiota while protecting the gut and the body from intrusion of bacteria and other microorganisms.

All aspects of gut barrier regulation and dysfunction throughout life in health and disease are welcome in this special issue, which will take into consideration submissions of both original research articles and reviews.

Guest Editors

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