

Special Issue

The Role of Nucleic Acids in Normal and Aberrant Immunity

Message from the Guest Editor

DNA and RNA can play a key role in host defense to infection as well as the pathogenesis of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases such as systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE); SLE is characterized by antibodies to nuclear molecules (antinuclear antibodies or ANAs). The role of nucleic acids as endogenous and exogenous stimulators of innate immunity has broad relevance in medicine and is leading to the development of immunomodulatory approaches for increasing or decreasing the amount and activity of DNA and RNA in the system in various diseases. This Special Issue will include cutting-edge articles on the following topics: the structure of DNA and RNA with respect to immune activity; the DNA and RNA sensors responding to cytoplasmic nucleic acids; the role of intracellular and extracellular nucleases in the response to DNA and RNA; antinuclear antibodies; the role of immune complexes in driving cytokine production; the role of mitochondrial DNA in immune activation; the generation of extracellular cell free (cf) DNA; the role of extracellular nucleic acids as biomarkers; and the role of DNA and RNA in driving disease pathogenesis.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The International Journal of Molecular Sciences (*IJMS*, ISSN 1422-0067) is an open access journal, which was established in 2000. The journal aims to provide a forum for scholarly research on a range of topics, including biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, molecular biophysics, molecular medicine, and all aspects of molecular research in chemistry. *IJMS* publishes both original research and review articles, and regularly publishes special issues to highlight advances at the cutting edge of research. We invite you to read recent articles published in *IJMS* and consider publishing your next paper with us.

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