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Intracellular Trafficking and Organelle Biogenesis in Apicomplexan Parasites

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Message from the Guest Editor

The phylum Apicomplexa comprises more than 5000 single-celled parasites of clinical and economic importance, including *Plasmodium falciparum*, the agents of malaria, and *Toxoplasma gondii*, the cause of toxoplasmosis. These obligate intracellular parasites possess a highly complex endomembrane system to build morphologically distinct organelles that are essential for invasion and hijacking multiple biological functions of the hosts. The accurate targeting of proteins and lipids to their final destination is a crucial process in all living cells and apicomplexan parasites as well. Due to the complexity of the internal organization of these parasites, a wide panoply of trafficking factors are required for the correct sorting of proteins and lipids towards their various organelles. However, these parasites contain only a core set of these trafficking factors. In addition, recent insight suggests trafficking of proteins and other materials into *T. gondii* and *P. falciparum* via unusual and novel pathways. In this Special Issue, reviews will report on different trafficking machineries and mechanisms which are involved in the biogenesis of parasite-specific organelles.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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