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Novel Insights into Humoral Innate Resistance against Pathogens: Links with Extracellular Matrix and Haemostasis

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Message from the Guest Editors

The immune system comprises a cellular and a humoral arm. Pattern recognition molecules (PRMs) are fluid-phase molecules of humoral innate immunity and include pentraxins, collectins and ficolins. Innate immunity is evolutionarily and functionally connected with haemostasis. An inflammation-induced activation of coagulation contributes to antimicrobial defence. Platelet-derived factors and fibrin formation serve as a first line of defence by limiting bacterial growth and dissemination and regulating local inflammation. Pentraxins share dual roles related to antimicrobial defence and extracellular matrix (ECM); therefore, the recognition of ECM and microbial components is a recurrent theme in the humoral arm of the innate immune system.

This Special Issue aims to provide new insights into the functioning of humoral innate immunity, with a focus on the intersection of the molecular mechanisms underlying the interaction between innate immunity, haemostasis, and ECM in infections, thus providing different vistas for further investigation in the field.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The worldwide impact of infectious disease is incalculable. The consequences for human health in terms of morbidity and mortality are obvious and vast but, when infections of animals and plants are also taken into account, it is hard to imagine any other disease that has such a significant impact on our lives—on healthcare systems, on agriculture and on world economics. *Pathogens* is proud to continue to serve the international community by publishing high quality studies that further our understanding of infection and have meaningful consequences for disease intervention.

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