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Venomics Insights into the Evolutionary Biology of Peptide Toxins in Marine and Terrestrial Organisms

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Gandhi Rádis-Baptista
1. Laboratory of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Institute for Marine Sciences, Federal University of Ceara, Fortaleza 60165-081, CE, Brazil
2. Dept. of Biochemistry and Biophysiscs, Institute of Health Sciences, Federal University of Bahia, Salvador 40110-100, BA, Brazil

Dr. Hidetoshi Inagaki
Biomedical Research Institute, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, 1-1-1 Higashi, Tsukuba 305-8566, Ibaraki, Japan

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Message from the Guest Editors

Indeed, biological diversity can be understood and translated into combinatorial chemical and pharmacological possibilities. Modern venomics has advanced so well in technological aspects that the tiniest and hidden organisms can be assessed for their toxin contents and repertoires. The combination of "omics" sciences (genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, etc.), computational biology, and essential pharmacological assays, such as in vitro 2-D, 3-D, and organoid cell systems, electrophysiology (e.g., voltage and patch-clamp recording), and in vivo insect (e.g., cricket), mouse, and zebrafish models, allow for and make possible the discovery of toxin structures, scaffolds, activities, and functionalities that have contributed to translating the basic research on toxins into different fields of applied sciences—from pest control (e.g., ion-channel blocker bioinsecticides) to diagnosing and treating chronic and degenerative diseases (peptide probes and antidiabetic, immunomodulator, and painkiller drugs).

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Jay Fox
Department of Microbiology,
University of Virginia,
Charlottesville, VA, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Contact Us

Toxins Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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