



Animal Toxins as a Remarkable Source for Drug Discovery and Development

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Message from the Guest Editors

Poisons and venoms are complex mixtures of salts, small organic molecules, peptides and proteins that are produced by animals for self-defense, predation or intraspecific competition. Poisonous and venomous animals are widely distributed in Nature, including invertebrates such as cnidarians, mollusks, annelids, hymenopterans, and spiders; and vertebrates such as snakes, platypus, amphibians, lizards, and fishes. Several venom/poison toxins have been studied as pharmacological tools and bioinsecticides, and for therapeutic purposes due to their biological and pharmacological properties, including antimicrobial, anticancer, antiparasitic, analgesic, wound-healing, antihypertensive, and neuroprotective effects. This Special Issue will accept original research articles and reviews that highlight the potential of toxins found in animal venoms and poisons as prototypes or templates for the development of new therapeutic agents for the treatment of several diseases and disorders (e.g., type 2 diabetes mellitus, cancer, microbial infections, chronic pain, thrombotic diseases, neurodegenerative diseases).





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Toxinology is an incredibly diverse area of study, ranging from field surveys of environmental toxins to the study of toxin action at the molecular level. The editorial board and staff of *Toxins* are dedicated to providing a timely, peer-reviewed outlet for exciting, innovative primary research articles and concise, informative reviews from investigators in the myriad of disciplines contributing to our knowledge on toxins. We are committed to meeting the needs of the toxin research community by offering useful and timely reviews of all manuscripts submitted. Please consider *Toxins* when submitting your work for publication.

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