



**toxins**



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## Foodborne Intoxications and Toxicoinfections—Major Pathogens and Challenges

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:

**closed (1 May 2022)**

### Message from the Guest Editors

Microbial organisms producing toxins encountered in food are a major threat to human health and lead to substantial economic losses. While toxins produced by organisms such as *Staphylococcus*, *Bacillus* and *Clostridium* have been the focus of scientific research for decades, major questions remain unanswered. Major advances in whole genome sequencing have led to paradigm shifts and have amongst others initiated a collapse of traditional taxonomy-driven risk assessment in the *Bacillus cereus* group. While *e.g.* *Bacillus thuringiensis* and *Clostridium difficile* have been discussed as potential causative organisms in outbreaks, species traditionally exclusively associated with high toxicity such as *Bacillus cytotoxicus* have been shown to exhibit strong strain-specific variation in toxin production. The food matrix itself has a strong impact on the formation and stability of toxins. The lack of accurate and robust high-throughput detection and characterization methods as well as the broad variety of food matrices has limited the data available to date—a situation that is further exacerbated by wide-spread underreporting.



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# Special Issue



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## Editor-in-Chief

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