



Toxins and Lung Infection

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:

closed (4 November 2020)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Bacterial toxins are potent inducers of pulmonary inflammation and can impair alveolar fluid clearance, through vectorial sodium transport actions, and barrier function, through phosphorylation of tight and adherens junction proteins. These toxin actions can ultimately lead to lung disease, including acute lung injury and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). This Special Issue will focus on how G+/G- bacterial toxins, including the pore-forming toxins pneumolysin, listeriolysin-O, and alpha-toxin, as well as lipopolysaccharide (LPS), affect cellular processes involved in pathophysiology and resolution of lung disease and how their actions may be modulated. The reader will be provided with an overall view of what is presently known about the mode of action and functions of these toxins, and how they may be inhibited or even harnessed to promote the entry of other important biologically relevant proteins and substances.

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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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