

Special Issue

The Role of Matrix Metalloproteinases in Ocular Pathologies

Message from the Guest Editors

Matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) are a family of more than twenty Zn²⁺-dependent endopeptidases. Their combined activity is capable of degrading almost all the components of the extracellular matrix (ECM), which points to their essential role in physiological processes that require matrix remodelling, such as embryonic development, the endometrial cycle, tissue repair or angiogenesis. Similarly, MMPs are also involved in pathological processes in which excessive degradation of the matrix occurs, such as arthritis, cancer, cardiovascular and neurological diseases. I am pleased to invite you to contribute to this Special Issue of *Biology* entitled: "The Role of Matrix Metalloproteinases in Ocular Pathologies". In this Special Issue, original research articles and reviews are welcome. This Special Issue summarizes current knowledge regarding these proteins, their participation in physiological and pathophysiological roles, their involvement in activation and inhibition, and their interactions with other proteins. I look forward to receiving your contributions.

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A major strength of biological science is the diversity of approaches that biological scientists apply to their research problems. *Biology* reflects this diversity and brings together studies employing the varied experimental and theoretical approaches that are fueling biological discovery. *Biology*, the journal, is a fully peer-reviewed publication with a rapid and economical route to open access publication and is listed on PubMed. All articles are peer-reviewed and the editorial focus is on determining that the work is scientifically sound rather than trying to predict its future impact.

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