

## Special Issue

# Biofouling and Antifouling: Interactions between Microbes and Larvae of Invertebrates

### Message from the Guest Editor

Biofouling refers to the undesirable accumulation and deposition of living organisms on submerged hard surfaces. The initial stages of biofouling are represented by biofilms, which are composed of assemblages of different microorganisms—such as bacteria, fungi, diatoms, and protozoa—incorporated into exopolymeric substances and attached to each other and to substrata. The bioactive compounds produced by the microbes in biofilms can induce or inhibit the larval recruitment of invertebrates. Biofilms are highly dynamic systems. Environmental changes cause substantial changes in the community structure and composition of biofilms, which in turn affect the settlement of macrofouling species and their health. The molecular interactions between the biofilm community composition and settlement of invertebrate larvae remain poorly understood. This Special Issue targets research results focusing on microbe–larva interactions. Special emphasis will be placed on the novel “omics” approaches, such as metagenomics, metatranscriptomics, and metabolomics.

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### Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Sergey Dobretsov

Department of Marine Science and Fisheries, Sultan Qaboos University,  
Al Khoud 123, P.O. Box 34, Muscat, Oman

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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The International Journal of Molecular Sciences (*IJMS*, ISSN 1422-0067) is an open access journal, which was established in 2000. The journal aims to provide a forum for scholarly research on a range of topics, including biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, molecular biophysics, molecular medicine, and all aspects of molecular research in chemistry. *IJMS* publishes both original research and review articles, and regularly publishes special issues to highlight advances at the cutting edge of research. We invite you to read recent articles published in *IJMS* and consider publishing your next paper with us.

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of Odontostomatologic and Specialized Clinical Sciences,  
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of Medicine, Università Politecnica delle  
Marche, Via Ranieri 65, 60100 Ancona, Italy

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