



Disease Markers

Special Issue on  
**Diagnostic and Prognostic Markers of Chronic  
Inflammatory/Autoimmune Diseases**

CALL FOR PAPERS

More than 80 types of chronic inflammatory/autoimmune diseases (CIAD) are yet described and many of them such as type 1 diabetes, multiple sclerosis, or rheumatoid arthritis are common. Many studies have confirmed that genes, epigenetic regulation, and environmental factors are involved in pathogenesis of CIAD. Unfortunately, CIAD are poorly diagnosed in reason of often nonspecific clinical presentation which makes early diagnosis quite difficult. The availability of serological markers such as autoantibodies improves diagnostic ability when taken in context with the presenting clinical features. New autoantibodies are regularly described in scientific publications exploring both their diagnostic and prognostic abilities in CIAD. Moreover, new approaches like studies of antibody/antigen interactions using the surface plasmon resonance may also differentiate new antibodies from CIAD. Nevertheless, characterization of new circulating autoantibodies is not the unique tool providing relevant information for CIAD management. For example, epigenetic studies, which refer to the study of heritable alterations in genome function without underlying modifications in their nucleotide sequence, provide new insights into CIAD and might reveal new clinical biomarkers for diagnosis and disease progression. Metabolomics, which explores endogenous small molecules or metabolites produced by an organism in biochemical processes, may provide new biomarkers, useful for diagnosis or follow-up of CIAD.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Latest technologies to identify new biomarkers/autoantibodies in CIAD
- ▶ Predictive value of biomarkers/autoantibodies for the onset of clinically manifest CIAD
- ▶ Preanalytical factors, analytical factors, and standardization of autoantibody testing
- ▶ Biomarkers for guiding or stratifying therapies for patients with CIAD
- ▶ Sensitivity, specificity, and reliability of new CIAD markers in routine practice

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/dm/dpmc/>.

**Lead Guest Editor**

Sophie Desplat-Jégo, Aix Marseille University, Marseille, France  
*sophie.jego-desplat@ap-hm.fr*

**Guest Editors**

Catherine Johanet, CHU Saint-Antoine, Saint-Antoine, France  
*catherine.johanet@aphp.fr*

Jacques Serratrice, University Hospital of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland  
*jser@hcuge.ch*

**Manuscript Due**

Friday, 12 February 2016

**First Round of Reviews**

Friday, 6 May 2016

**Publication Date**

Friday, 1 July 2016