

Special Issue on
**The New Diagnostic Systems in Autoimmunity and Their
Integration in Clinical Practice**

CALL FOR PAPERS

In recent years, autoimmune diseases have evolved from being a rarity—whose diagnosis was reached by exclusion—to fully accepted diseases. The amount of basic and clinical knowledge about autoimmunity has been affecting diagnostic and therapeutic advances. Nowadays, autoimmune diseases are one of the main health problems.

Laboratory diagnosis of autoimmune diseases used to be based on “artisan” and very subjective tests, such as indirect immunofluorescence using animal tissues as substrates. The increase in the demand for autoantibodies test has created the need for new reproducible and objective techniques.

In the development of new assays, only the modern automated methodologies seem to be able to perform high throughput analyses. However, some authors still consider traditional methods as the gold standard for autoantibody detection.

This special issue aims to clarify the current state of new technologies for autoantibody detection and the advantages of certain assays as well as the standardization of recent developed assays.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Automation of antibody detection by immunofluorescence and CAD systems in the diagnosis of lupus and other autoimmune pathologies
- ▶ Comparison of traditional and novel automated solid-phase assays for the detection of autoantibodies in systemic autoimmune diseases
- ▶ Screening and identification of autoantibodies with antigen arrays and multiple detection systems of antinuclear and antiphospholipid antibodies
- ▶ Proteomics technologies for diagnosis of autoimmune diseases
- ▶ New emerging methodologies for the detection of specific autoantibodies in connective tissue diseases
- ▶ Detection of biomarkers profiles associated with autoimmunity by new detection platforms
- ▶ Sensitivity and specificity of the new autoantibody evaluation systems
- ▶ Standardization (cutoff points and range values) of the new diagnostic systems
- ▶ Cost-effective diagnostic algorithms based on the novel technologies

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Papers are published upon acceptance, regardless of the Special Issue publication date.

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