



Mediators of Inflammation

Special Issue on

**Role of Myeloid Immune Cells in Parasitic Infections**

# CALL FOR PAPERS

Parasitic infections are a major cause of morbidity, mortality, and economic loss in tropical and subtropical regions affecting humans and animals. They are caused by a range of organisms from unicellular protozoan to large helminth parasites. Parasitic infections affect hundreds of millions of people worldwide and often considered neglected infectious diseases.

Unfortunately there are no successful vaccines for these parasites and therapeutic approaches are limited. Long term-exposure to parasite can often lead to a state of immune hyporesponsiveness, signifying the complexity of the parasite-host immune cell interplay. Moreover, the presence of parasites might heighten susceptibility to subsequent nonrelated infections or decrease vaccine effectiveness. Thus, there is an urgent need to understand how parasites modulate the immune system to remain largely quiescent in their hosts while propagating their lifecycles.

Myeloid derived immune cells compromise dendritic cells, macrophages, monocytes, neutrophils, eosinophils, basophils, and mast cells and are critical initiators and effectors of the immune response. Interestingly, parasites have the ability to modulate myeloid immune cell activation making these interactions attractive targets for chemoprevention. Therefore, investigation of the molecular interactions between parasites and myeloid cell are of high importance for rational design of vaccines and develop new treatments.

In this special issue we invite investigators to submit original research articles to contribute to a better understanding of the immunology of protozoa and helminthic infections. Also, investigators are invited to submit review articles, which highlight the importance of the role of myeloid cells during parasitic infections.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Parasite recognition by myeloid innate immune cells
- ▶ Intracellular signaling triggered or hijacked by parasites
- ▶ Modulation of activation of myeloid immune cells by parasites or their molecules
- ▶ Role of myeloid immune cells in immunity or susceptibility against parasites
- ▶ Mechanisms regulating myeloid cell polarization during parasitic diseases

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

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