

Special Issue on **Role of the Innate Immune System in Host Defense against Bacterial Infections: Focus on Inflammatory Immune Response**

CALL FOR PAPERS

The innate immunity plays a critical role in host protection against bacterial pathogens. After encountering a bacterial pathogen, the host defense system is initiated by local phagocytic cells that eliminate invading pathogens by phagocytosis and consequent destruction in the phagolysosome. Pathogen recognition requires the participation of pattern recognition receptors, such as the Toll-like receptors (TLRs) and the nucleotide-binding oligomerization domain proteins (NOD-like receptors, NLRs), to alert the immune system of the presence of extracellular and intracellular intruders. After pathogen recognition, the APCs produce cytokines and chemokines that mediate influx of more phagocytic cells and lymphocytes to ensure clearance of the pathogen and induction of memory immune cells. However, several pathogens are able to survive intracellularly through the evasion of the innate and adaptive immune responses.

In this special issue, we invite scientists to contribute with original research containing significant new findings in the field as well as review articles presenting the state of the art of their research focus. This special issue will offer insights into host-pathogen interaction, specifically in the mechanisms used by phagocytic cells to kill intruders and in the mechanisms used by bacterial pathogens to evade innate immune response in order to ensure their survival and cause disease.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Mechanisms of pathogen recognition and uptake
- ▶ Role of neutrophil “nets” in bacterial clearance
- ▶ Mechanisms of intracellular killing by phagocytes
- ▶ Bacterial virulence factors that subvert the immune response
- ▶ *Pros* and *cons* of inflammation on bacterial pathogenicity

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

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First Round of Reviews

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