



Mediators of Inflammation

Special Issue on Immunology and Infection by Protozoan Parasites 2016

CALL FOR PAPERS

Protozoan infection is the cause of diseases of high morbidity and mortality, like malaria, leishmaniasis, African trypanosomiasis, Chagas disease, and toxoplasmosis. Most are non-self-limiting chronic infections and neglected diseases; emergent antimicrobial-resistant strains pose a substantial problem; for many of them, treatment is either highly toxic or has limited effectiveness. Vaccine development is still a formidable task and there is no licensed vaccine for human protozoan infection. The key to control protozoan infection is the understanding of the host immune response to protozoan parasites, which will guide the development of effective vaccines and immunotherapeutic agents.

We invite authors to submit original research papers that seek to define the interaction between protozoan parasites and their products and the host immune system. Unsolicited review papers will also be analyzed. We are interested in articles that explore aspects of immunity against protozoan infection in humans, animal models, and *ex vivo/in vitro* systems.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Elucidating the role of host factors in the development of antiprotozoal innate and adaptive immunity
- ▶ Elucidating the role of protozoal pathogen factors modulating mediators of inflammation in the outcome of infection
- ▶ Identification of mechanisms employed by protozoan pathogens to escape the immune response
- ▶ Identification of new antigenic targets of the human response to protozoan pathogens
- ▶ New biomarkers that help identify and follow up protozoan infection, protective or pathogenic immune response, and clinical outcomes of protozoan infection
- ▶ New cellular and animal model in the study of host-protozoan interactions and their corresponding immune responses
- ▶ Pathogen or host genetic variables that affect the outcome of infection or its corresponding immune response
- ▶ Systems biology approaches to study protozoan infection and its immune response
- ▶ Development and testing of novel antiprotozoal vaccines
- ▶ Development of immunotherapeutic strategies to treat protozoal infection
- ▶ Clinical trials of novel immunotherapeutic agents to treat protozoal infection
- ▶ Drug-immunotherapy combinations to treat protozoal infection

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