



Immune Competence in Marine Invertebrate Organisms throughout the Development

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (20 February 2022)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Marine invertebrate metazoans, in which immunity is independent of any demonstrated clonal recall, represent a fruitful tool for researchers to investigate the mechanisms of the innate immune response in a number of unrelated species. Basically, in all multicellular adult animals, the pivotal effectors of immune-surveillance are the phagocytes, known by different names (amebocytes, hemocytes, coelomocytes) in different species.

This Special Issue aims to highlight recent evidence on the immunity during the development. Analyzing the development of immunocompetence in marine invertebrate organisms during throughout their life should clarify: (1) how the defense is carried out in an embryo in which immunocompetent tissues/organs are not yet fully developed; (2) which immune-related genes have functions both in the development and in the immunity and whether these functions overlap or switch from the embryonic to the adult stage.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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