



Next Generation of MRI Agents

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Andre F. Martins

Dr. Mark Pagel

MD Anderson Cancer Center,
University of Texas, Houston, TX,
USA

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Contrast agents have served an essential role in the development and clinical translation of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) during the last 40 years. The first agents developed in the 1980s were designed to change the MR image contrast to identify anatomical features, such as solid tumors that had enhanced the uptake of nonspecific tracers. These agents are still commonly used for qualitative assessments of many clinical pathologies. These nonspecific tracer agents began to be temporally monitored in the 1990s as an agent was intravenously injected, then flowed through the vasculature and eventually permeated into the tissue of interest, such as a kidney or tumor. Semiquantitative and quantitative evaluations of the pharmacokinetics of these agents provided functional information, especially for studies in cardiology and oncology.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Amélia Pilar Rauter

Departamento de Química e Bioquímica (DQB) e Centro de Química e Bioquímica (CQB), Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa (FCUL), Rua Ernesto de Vasconcelos, Campo Grande, Edifício C8, 5º Piso, 1749-016 Lisboa, Portugal

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MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
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