



## Potential of the Aptamers to Fill Therapeutic and Diagnostic Gaps

Guest Editors:

### **Dr. Cristina Romero-López**

Department of Molecular Biology,  
Instituto de Parasitología y  
Biomedicina López-Neyra  
(IPBLN-CSIC), PTS Granada, Av.  
Conocimiento, Armilla, 18016  
Granada, Spain

### **Dr. Alfredo Berzal-Herranz**

Department of Molecular Biology,  
Instituto de Parasitología y  
Biomedicina López-Neyra  
(IPBLN-CSIC), PTS Granada, Av  
del Conocimiento 17, 18016  
Granada, Spain

Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (27 April 2023)**

### **Message from the Guest Editors**

We are glad to invite authors to submit original manuscripts in the field of medicinal aptamers. Aptamers are short, functional oligonucleotides able to recognize, in a specific way, a wide variety of molecular targets. These targets range from ions or small compounds to whole viruses or even cells. Aptamers are isolated from selection experiments, either in vitro, ex vivo, or both, by virtue of their affinity and specificity for the desired target. Such properties are intrinsically related to the aptamer three-dimensional folding, which operates as a template to guide the identification of a precise target, in a similar way to the key and lock model described for protein enzymes.

This Special Issue aims to collect both review and original research articles that present the current state-of-the-art of aptamers in clinics, either as diagnostic or therapeutic agents. Reports on technology applications for the development of aptamers-based diagnostic platforms are also welcome. Their invaluable contribution to biomedical investigations can also be discussed.





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

## 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

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Because of your expertise in the field of drug sciences, I kindly invite you to consider publishing your current work, in the form of a research article or a review, in the open access electronic journal *Pharmaceuticals*.

*Pharmaceuticals* is characterized by an active editorial board and a dynamic editorial staff. Manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a final decision is provided to authors within 4–6 weeks after submission. Papers are published on the web immediately after acceptance. For details on the submission process or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We hope to handle your contribution to *Pharmaceuticals* soon.

## Author Benefits

**Open Access:** free for readers, with [article processing charges \(APC\)](#) paid by authors or their institutions.

**High Visibility:** indexed within [Scopus](#), [SCIE \(Web of Science\)](#), [PubMed](#), [PMC](#), [Embase](#), [CAPus / SciFinder](#), and [other databases](#).

**Journal Rank:** JCR - Q2 (*Pharmacology & Pharmacy*) / CiteScore - Q2 (*Pharmaceutical Science*)

## Contact Us

*Pharmaceuticals* Editorial Office  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[www.mdpi.com](http://www.mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceuticals](http://mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceuticals)  
[pharmaceuticals@mdpi.com](mailto:pharmaceuticals@mdpi.com)