



Microbiological and Clinical Aspects of *Actinomyces* Infections

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Actinomyces species are anaerobic, non-spore-forming Gram-positive rods that are important saprophytic constituents of the normal microbiota of humans, with highest numbers in the oropharynx. *Actinomyces* species are considered as low-grade pathogens. *Actinomyces* infections (actinomycoses) are considered to be rare, their true prevalence may be underestimated. Additionally, diagnosis of actinomycosis may be difficult as the clinical presentation of symptoms and signs can mimic other pathologies. MALDI-TOF MS has allowed for the correct and precise identification of anaerobes in a clinically-relevant time frame, compared to conventional, biochemical methods.

The purpose of this issue is to enrich the existing literature regarding this neglected pathogen, therefore manuscripts including but not limited to the following topics are welcome: valuable case reports and novel results on the epidemiology, diagnostics, clinical features and therapy of actinomycoses, in addition to experimental findings on the virulence factors and resistance determinants of *Actinomyces* spp.

Keywords: *Actinomyces* spp; cervicofacial infections; thoracic infections; abdominal infections





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

There are very few fields that attract as much attention as scientific endeavor related to antibiotic discovery, use and preservation. The public, patients, scientists, clinicians, policy-makers, NGOs, governments, and supra-governmental organizations are all focusing intensively on it: all are concerned that we use our existing agents more effectively, and develop and evaluate new interventions in time to face emerging challenges for the benefit of present and future generations. We need every discipline to contribute and collaborate: molecular, microbiological, clinical, epidemiological, geographic, economic, social scientific and policy disciplines are all key. *Antibiotics* is a nimble, inclusive and rigorous indexed journal as an enabling platform for all who can contribute to solving the greatest broad concerns of the modern world.

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