



toxins



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Evaluation of Cytotoxicity and Cytoprotection. Effects of Natural Toxins

Guest Editor:

Dr. Ana Juan-García

Laboratory of Food Chemistry
and Toxicology, Faculty of
Pharmacy, University of Valencia,
E-46100 Valencia, Spain

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Message from the Guest Editor

The lifestyle associated with good quality of food is well known for its widely recognized health benefits, especially when rich in bioactive compounds. Reduced risks of some types of cancer and other diseases have been associated with the adoption of such a diet, as have increased antioxidants, inhibitors of lipid peroxidation, decrease of pro-inflammatory cytokine production, etc. Their classification is very wide, including lycopenes, carotenoids, and polyphenols (flavonoids and non-flavonoids). Nevertheless, the presence of natural toxins in food usually happens due to a lack in harvesting, storage or packaging, or climate changes and atmospheric conditions. Such toxins can have different origins, as from plants, fungi, algae, bacteria, marine biotoxins including mycotoxins, lectins, furocoumarins, shiga toxin, ciguatoxins, etc. Studies at the cellular level attributed to natural toxins precede those toxins detected in organs and systems. Evaluation of the effects of natural toxins and biologically active compounds of extracts from the plant kingdom constitute a potential to combat various diseases thanks to its rich content.



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Prof. Dr. Jay Fox

Department of Microbiology,
University of Virginia,
Charlottesville, VA, USA

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

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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