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Special Issue "Growth Hormone (GH): Multiple Therapeutic Possibilities and Molecular Mechanisms of Action"

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A special issue of *International Journal of Molecular Sciences* ([/journal/ijms](http://journal/ijms)) (ISSN 1422-0067). This special issue belongs to the section "[Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology](http://journal/ijms/sections/biochemistry)".

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Special Issue Editor

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Jesús Devesa

Scientific Director of The Medical Center Foltra. Travesía de Montouto 24, 15886 TEO, Spain

Website (<http://www.foltra.org/>) | E-Mail (.)

Interests: growth hormone; growth hormone receptor; IGF-I; brain injury; stroke; cerebral palsy; hypoxia/ischemia; neurodegeneration; atherosclerosis; growth hormone and gonads; growth hormone and diabetes; growth hormone and cancer; growth hormone signaling pathway



Special Issue Information

Dear Colleagues,

Classically, GH has been considered as a pituitary hormone, with predominantly metabolic actions and an effect on the longitudinal growth of the organism until the end of puberty. However, today we know that GH is expressed in virtually all tissues and organs of the human body, in which it plays a self/paracrine role, possibly, although it is not known, in cooperation with the hormone that reaches them from the plasma after being released by the pituitary gland. We also know that after interacting with its membrane receptor, GH is internalized together with the GHR, a mechanism that allows the GHR to be translocated to the nucleus of the cells for inducing, or blocking, gene expression; we also know that, at least in rodents, internalized GH undergoes a proteolytic break (tissue, sex, and age-specific), giving rise to shorter peptides of which action is still unknown. Since the beginning of the 2000s, when it was discovered that the GHR was upregulated in the brain of rodents after induced brain damage, the interest in the possible actions of GH in the repair of the brain has been increasing until today. The same occurs with the effects of the hormone on the vascular endothelium, where GH seems to play a beneficial effect; or in the gonads, where a local GH/IGF-I axis seems to play a key role in the physiological gonadal function. The effects of GH on the beta cells of the islets of Langerhans, and diabetes, need to be clarified, as well as the relationships between GH and cancer. Furthermore, GH signaling pathways in different tissues have to be elucidated, and the same occurs with the induction by GH of the expression of many different growth factors.

Giving an answer to these molecular mechanisms of action, still unknown or poorly understood, and the relationships between GH and other growth factors will provide a better understanding of the effects of this important hormone, for its therapeutic use in many different pathologies beyond its mere use for growth in GH-deficient children.

For these reasons, researchers are invited to submit their original research or reviews for this Special Issue of the International Journal of Molecular Sciences, entitled "Growth Hormone (GH): Multiple Possibilities and Molecular Mechanisms of Action", which will cover a selection of topics highlighting the role of GH and its molecular effects in health (included aging) and therapeutic possibilities.

Prof. Dr. Jesús Devesa

*Guest Editor***Manuscript Submission Information**

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