

## Modern Chemistry & Applications

## **Editorial on Medicinal Biochemistry**

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## EDITORIAL

**Medicinal Biochemistry** is a branch of medicine that includes biochemistry and metabolism in human and disease. In medical biochemistry (also known as molecular biology), biochemical techniques are applied to human health and disease.

The typical scope of medical biochemistry can be known from the following:

- The chemical components of the human body, including carbohydrates and lipids; amino acids and proteins; blood and plasma; biological membranes; nucleic acids (DNA and RNA)
- The major chemical processes in the human body, such as cell development; enzyme activity; membrane transport mechanisms; homeostasis; blood coagulation (clotting); oxygen transport; neurotransmitter function; ageing
- Nutrition and mineral metabolism, including the role and function of vitamins in the body
- Molecular genetics
- Heredity
- Genomics

Biochemical inquiry mostly deals with the structures, functions and interactions of biological macromolecules which are the large molecules (such as proteins) that provide the structure of cells and perform many of the functions associated with life.

The chemistry of the cell also depends on the reactions of smaller molecules and ions. These molecules can be organic (e.g. the amino acids that are used to synthesize proteins) or inorganic (e.g. water and metal ions).

Medicine is one of the areas that has benefited from biochemistry. The discipline has also made its vital contributions to the fields of cell biology, physiology, pathology, pharmacology, microbiology, immunology, nutrition, forensic medicine, and toxicology, as well as the fields of inflammation, cell injury, and cancer.

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Received: February 09, 2021; Accepted: February 18, 2021; Published: February 26, 2021

Citation: Sirisha.G (2021) Editorial on Medicinal Biochemistry. Mod Chem Appl. 9:e290. doi:10.35248/2329-6798.20.9.e290.

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Mod Chem Appl, Vol. 9 Iss. 2 No: 290