Preface

Since recombinant proteins are necessary for a wide range of applications for both biotechnological and pharmaceutical industries, the interest in the recombinant protein production field has been growing exponentially in the last several years. In this context, although some of these proteins are easily produced and purified, many of them show important bottlenecks in the production and purification process with insolubility being one of the most important ones. Thus, this volume of the *Methods in Molecular Biology* series aims to provide the scientific community with detailed and reliable state-of-the-art protocols that are used in order to successfully produce and purify recombinant proteins prone to aggregate. The main objective of this book is to help those working in the recombinant protein production field by describing a wide number of protocols and examples. The book is organized into 24 chapters that describe not only the recombinant protein production in different expression systems but also different purification and characterization methods to finally obtain these difficult-to-obtain proteins. Chapters 1–13 are focused on the description of protein production methods using both prokaryotic and eukaryotic expression systems. Chapters 14–17 describe purification protocols using insoluble proteins, while Chapters 18–23 are useful to find information regarding the characterization of insoluble proteins. Finally, Chapter 24 aims to give a general overview of interesting applications of insoluble proteins.

I would like to stress that this book has been written by a multidisciplinary team, which adds value to its content since it has been analyzed from different points of view.

Finally, I would like to thank all the authors for their great job. The publication of this book would not have been possible without the effort of all of them. I would also like to thank Prof. John Walker for giving me the opportunity to edit this book and for his full support through the whole process.

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http://www.springer.com/978-1-4939-2204-8

Insoluble Proteins
Methods and Protocols
García-Fruitós, E. (Ed.)
2015, XVI, 425 p. 72 illus., 41 illus. in color., Hardcover
ISBN: 978-1-4939-2204-8
A product of Humana Press