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Sommario/riassunto	This special edition of Toxins will cover recent developments in snake venom metalloproteinase structure, function and clinical implications. It will include a historical retrospective of the discovery of Snake Venom Metalloproteinases (SVMPs) and early insights into their biochemical mechanisms and how they function in envenomation. The individual articles will review - SVMP Structure - Pathologies associated with SVMPs activities - Mechanism of action; evolution and orthologs - SVMP processing and disintegrins - Potential clinical applications of SVMP scaffolds.