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150 Years of Motor Endplate: Molecules, Cells, and Relevance of a Model Synapse

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

More than 150 years after the terms ‘plaques nerveuses terminales’ and ‘motorische Endplatte’ were coined by Charles Rouget and Wilhelm Krause, respectively, the neuromuscular synapse continues to be crucial for the musculoskeletal and neural sciences. Having always served as a model in terms of morphological and molecular configuration of chemical synapses, recent research has renewed an interest in the involvement of the motor endplate in general systemic functions of muscle beyond inducing contraction. Along these lines, the endplate has lately also attracted increasing attention with respect to its role in pathophysiology and aging.

This Special Issue of *Cells* will focus on the progress in understanding the molecular and cellular frameworks that regulate and mediate formation, maintenance, and repair of the motor endplate in normal physiology and upon pathological conditions. Further, it will address consequences of these insights on treatment of neuromuscular diseases and muscle wasting conditions.

Keywords

- neuromuscular synapse
- muscle innervation
- neuromuscular disorders
- muscle wasting
- muscle regeneration



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Message from the Editorial Board

Cells has become a solid international scientific journal that is now indexed on SCIE and in other databases. We have successfully introduced a special issues format so that these issues serve as mini-forums in specific areas of cell science. *Cells* encourages researchers to suggest new special issues, serve as special issues editors, and volunteer to be reviewers. Our main focus will remain on cell anatomy and physiology, the structure and function of organelles, cell adhesion and motility, and the regulation of intracellular signaling, growth, differentiation, and aging. We are open to both original research papers and reviews.

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