

Special Issue

Integrins Mediate Cell-Matrix Adhesion

Message from the Guest Editor

Integrins are the heterodimeric transmembrane adhesion receptors and act as the “fasteners”, connecting the cells with the extracellular matrix (ECM), or matrix in short. Unlike other membrane receptors, which can signal only from outside to in, integrins have the extraordinary potential to function as the bidirectional signaling receptors facilitating inside-out signaling (mediated by intracellular signals) and outside-in signaling (mediated by the ligands in the matrix). Any deregulation in the integrin-mediated cell-matrix interactions and integrin activation/deactivation results in pathological conditions, namely cancer, inflammation, metabolic diseases, bleeding disorders, immune disorders, and neurological disorders, to name a few. In this Special Issue, we want to pay attention to the complex biology of integrin-mediated cell-matrix interactions and explore the previously unknown phenomenon of this essential regulation directly linked with many diseases.

Guest Editor

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