

Special Issue

Airway Smooth Muscle and Respiratory Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Asthma is characterized by airway hyperresponsiveness (AHR), inflammation and remodeling. Airway smooth muscle (ASM) cells have pivotal roles in all these aspects of asthma. The contractile function of ASM cells primarily contributes to the bronchospasm and reversible airway obstruction seen in asthma exacerbations. Furthermore, the synthetic and secretory functions of ASM cells are pivotal to airway inflammation and remodeling. In order to gain a deeper understanding of the role of ASM in all three aspects of asthma pathology—airway hyperreactivity, airway inflammation and remodeling—and to expedite identifying novel, druggable targets related to these aspects, we invite researchers to submit cutting-edge original and review articles on the topic of airway smooth muscle and respiratory diseases. This Special Issue aims to contribute to the much-needed novel knowledge on ASM biology relevant to airway diseases characterized by bronchospasm, such as asthma and COPD.

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