

Special Issue

RNA Regulation in Cell-Type Development and Disease

Message from the Guest Editor

The wide variety of cell and tissue types found in multicellular organisms are defined by distinct patterns of gene expression. Beyond transcription, we have begun to realize that different cell and tissue types employ divergent patterns of RNA regulation directed by RNA-binding proteins. This results in distinct patterns of alternative splicing, mRNA localization, and transcript stability that ultimately fine tunes cell-type-specific protein expression. The disruption of RNA regulation, notably of alternative splice isoform expression, leads to a wide variety of diseases from cardiomyopathy to myotonic dystrophy and spinal motor atrophy, highlighting the importance of this cellular process.

There are, unfortunately, vast gaps in our understanding of RNA regulation. Only a small portion of RNA-binding proteins are characterized in an organism, and a wide array of proteins without canonical RNA-binding domains may in fact bind to RNA. This Special Issue welcomes the submission of articles and reviews exploring the role of RNA regulation in tissue and cell-type-specific development and providing insight to any of the above issues.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (29 December 2021)



Biology

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 3.5
CiteScore 7.4
Indexed in PubMed



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A major strength of biological science is the diversity of approaches that biological scientists apply to their research problems. *Biology* reflects this diversity and brings together studies employing the varied experimental and theoretical approaches that are fueling biological discovery. *Biology*, the journal, is a fully peer-reviewed publication with a rapid and economical route to open access publication and is listed on PubMed. All articles are peer-reviewed and the editorial focus is on determining that the work is scientifically sound rather than trying to predict its future impact.

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