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New Generation Imaging in Oncology

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Message from the Guest Editor

The introduction of molecular imaging, namely positron emission tomography (PET) imaging in oncology, has already changed the clinical outcomes and therapeutic management of oncological patients. Several PET radiopharmaceuticals have been proposed in oncology over the last decade, and these diagnostic techniques are now currently placed under the umbrella term new generation imaging.

The most successful approaches proposed for PET imaging, other than FDG-PET, have been receptorial tracers targeting the somatostatin receptors (SSRs) and the prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA), proposed to investigate neuroendocrine tumours and prostate cancer, respectively. Both of these in vivo biomarkers can be used both for diagnostic (PET imaging) and therapeutic (radioligand therapy) purposes, and are currently considered the cornerstones of the theranostic approach.

The application of radiomics in PET imaging is an emerging field. Radiomics is defined as the high-throughput extraction of quantitative features from medical images. This approach provides high-dimensional data describing properties of shape and texture of tumours captured in different diagnostic procedures.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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