Special Issue

Advances in Molecular Mechanisms of Head and Neck Cancers

Message from the Guest Editors

Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC) ranks as the world's sixth most common cancer among male patients according to the GLOBOCAN 2020 database. The clinical outcomes for advanced-stage tumors remain unsatisfactory. Cisplatin, 5-FU and docetaxol are the most common chemotherapy agents for HNSCC: however, chemo-resistance is currently a major problem among patients with recurrent and metastatic disease (R/M disease). Checkpoint inhibitors can be applied for salvage in R/M disease according to the clinical trials Checkmate-141 and Keynote-048. Clinically, some patients demonstrate responses to checkpoint inhibitors, but a significant number of patients show progressive disease. There are several unique molecular features in these advanced, chemoresistant tumors, and some tumors are responsive to checkpoint inhibitors. For this Special Issue, we welcome submissions focusing on these molecular characters and highlighting new treatment strategies for HNSCC.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Chih-Yen Chien

- 1. Department of Otolaryngology, Kaohsiung Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- 2. College of Medicine, Chang Gung University, Taoyuan City, Taiwan

Prof. Dr. Pei-Jen Lou

Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, National Taiwan University Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan

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Biomedicines
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
biomedicines@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Felipe Fregni

- Neuromodulation Center and Center for Clinical Research Learning, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114, USA
- 2. Department of Epidemiology, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, MA 02115, USA

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