Special Issue

New Insights into Oxidative Stress and Free Radical Biology

Message from the Guest Editor

The tumor microenvironment (TME) plays a crucial role in defining the progression of different cancers. Reactive oxygen species (ROS) produced by tumor cells and tumor-infiltrated immune cells are essential in shaping the TME. Oxidative stress is defined as an imbalance between production of ROS and their elimination by protective antioxidants. OS can cause DNA mutations and/or genomic instability. This leads to the initiation and progression of cancer. However, when discussing the role of OS in cancers, ROS act as a double edged sword. Although low levels of ROS can induce a proliferative effect and induce signaling pathways, high levels of ROS can cause damage to cancer tissues and cell death. Antioxidants can spare and protect normal tissues. However, existing data indicate that antioxidants may also protect tumor cells from oxidative damage induced by some chemotherapeutic agents. In this issue, we discuss recent findings relating oxidative stress and ROS to the TME in cancer, and responses to chemo- and radiotherapy. In addition, we discuss how different studies may identify new targets that will help the development of drugs for cancer therapy.

Guest Editor

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