Special Issue

Binding between Telocytes, Immune Cells, and Stem Cells

Message from the Guest Editors

Telocytes (TC) are found in many tissues and are mostly located in interstitial layers of organs, and have been identified in many vertebrates. Recent advances have also suggested the presence of telocytes in invertebrates and fishes. This cell system has been reported as ubiquitous in mammals and interpreted as an important player in innate immunity and tissue regeneration, also contributing to the maintenance of local tissue homeostasis. Telocytes are strategically located in between blood vessels, and close to nerve endings and interstitial cells. Furthermore, TCs appear to be part of stem cell (SC) niches in several organs, such as gut, skeletal muscle, heart, lung, and skin. Increasing evidence suggests a possible implication of TC in regulating the activity of tissue-resident SCs and shaping the SC niche microenvironment, thereby contributing to tissue renewal and repair. Recent evidence shows the involvement of TC in pathology. However, there are still key unanswered questions about these interesting cells. Telocyte research is an exciting field in which we can obtain a better understanding of the mechanisms involved in tissue development and homeostasis.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 September 2023)

Biomedicines

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.9
CiteScore 6.8
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/170065

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