



## The Role of Extracellular Matrix in Bioengineering

Guest Editor:

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Extracellular matrices (ECMs) include a family of proteins that fill the interstitial space in human tissue or form basement membranes. ECMs have nonfibrous components, such as glycosaminoglycans, hyaluronan, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, heparan sulfate and keratan sulfate. There are also fibrous proteins, such as collagens and elastin, and multidomain proteins, including glycoprotein, fibronectin and laminin. ECMs play critical roles in human tissue development, normal function, disease pathology progress and in vitro tissue culture models. This collection focuses on the novel functions and pathological roles of ECM proteins, as well as biomimetic molecules with which to substitute an ECM mixture or a single type of ECM protein. The applications cover all tissue types in tissue engineering, regenerative medicine and bioengineering.

Dr. Yan Li  
*Guest Editor*





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