Special Issue

Complexities in microRNA Function: Nuclear Roles, Sequence Variants and Non-canonical Gene Targeting

Message from the Guest Editor

MicroRNAs have well established functions within the cytoplasm, acting as the recognition component of the RNA-induced silencing complex (RISC) to suppress gene expression through a combination of RNA target destabilisation and translational inhibition. However, there is a growing body of evidence suggesting additional complexities in microRNA function. For example, there are abundant mature microRNAs and RISC components within nuclei, though their roles and significance are less well understood. High-throughput sequencing-based studies have also revealed abundant naturally occurring microRNA sequence variants (isomiRs) and a diverse array of possible target binding "rules" through which microRNAs can interact with potential targets. This Special Edition highlights some of these "non-canonical" functions and complexities of microRNAs, beyond the traditional view of single microRNA sequences interacting with target mRNAs through well-defined "seed-based" interactions within the cytoplasm.

Guest Editor

Dr. Cameron Bracken
Centre for Cancer Biology, University of South Australia and SA Pathology, Adelaide, Australia

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

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Biomolecules is a multidisciplinary open-access journal that reports on all aspects of research related to biogenic substances, from small molecules to complex polymers. We invite manuscripts of high scientific quality that pertain to the diverse aspects relevant to organic molecules, irrespective of the biological question or methodology. We aim for a competent, fair peer review and rapid publication. Please look at some of the exciting work that has been published in *Biomolecules* so far. We would be delighted to welcome you as one of our authors.

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Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Blegdamsvej 3C, DK-2200 Copenhagen, Denmark

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