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Cellular Communication, Carcinogenesis and Targeted Interventions

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Message from the Guest Editors

Cells in tissues communicate closely with each other either directly, by contact, or indirectly, by secretion of soluble factors or extracellular vesicles. Intercellular communication by contact is carried out mainly via three types of interactions: intercellular recognition or adhesion molecules, gap junctions and the very thin cytoplasmic projections called nanotubes. On the other hand, indirect cellular communication is carried out through secreted molecules that are transported from one cell to another by diffusion over short distances (paracrine communication) or long distances by blood flow (endocrine communication). Indirect intercellular communication can also be achieved by transmitting extracellular vesicles (EVs), such as exosomes and microvesicles, which act as transport shuttles, allowing cells to exchange proteins, RNAs (miRNAs, mRNAs) likely to modify the phenotype of the recipient cell. Gap junction intercellular communication capacity (GJICc) and connexin expression were found to be altered in cancer cells in 1966 when the studies on the gap junction involvement in carcinogenesis started.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Cancers (ISSN 2072-6694) is an international, online journal addressing both clinical and basic science issues related to cancer research. The journal will continue its open access format, which will certainly evolve to ensure that the journal takes full advantage of the rapidly changing world of information and knowledge dissemination. It publishes high-quality clinical, translational, and basic science research on cancer prevention, initiation, progression, and treatment, as well as other related topics, particularly to capture the most seminal studies in the rapidly growing area of immunology, immunotherapy, and tumor microenvironment.

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