Special Issue

Resistance to Targeted Therapies in Hematological Malignancies

Message from the Guest Editors

Hematological malignancies are successfully treated with chemo-immunotherapy in most cases, with a limited rate of primary resistance. However, secondary resistance acquired during treatment appears to be an almost unavoidable occurrence, leading to relapse in approximately one-third of patients. Targeted therapies, including monoclonal antibodies, conjugated or modified antibodies, and small molecules, have replaced conventional chemotherapy in many clinical settings since the latter approach has reached its limit of tolerability, which cannot be further improved. Malignant blood cells have an immense potential to avoid treatment, especially when targeted therapies are used as single agents. The resistance phenomena also affect CAR-modified effectors. The biological processes responsible for the resistance to targeted therapies are manifold, acting on the cell membrane with antigen loss or down-regulation, on the tumor microenvironment and effector–ligand relationship, or at genetic and epigenetic levels due to clonal evolution, mutations acquired during treatment or emerging subclones.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 November 2023)

Cancers

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.4
CiteScore 8.8
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/164693

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Cancers is an international online journal addressing both clinical and basic science issues related to cancer research. The journal is publishing in 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.

Editor-in-Chief

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