# **Special Issue**

# Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors (GIST): Opportunity and Challenges in Diagnosis and Treatment

# Message from the Guest Editors

Gastrointestinal stromal tumors are a subgroup of mesenchymal tumors originating from the interstitial cells of Cajal, which can arise from any part of the gastrointestinal tract, most frequently from the stomach and small intestine, characterized by the expression of the cell-surface transmembrane receptor KIT with tyrosine kinase activity in approximately 95% of tumors. Tumor mutational status is biologically and clinically important in GISTs and makes this tumor a paradigmatic model of oncogene addiction. Constitutively activating mutations in the gene coding for KIT proto-oncogene receptor tyrosine kinase (KIT) or in platelet-derived growth factor receptor alpha (PDGFRA) oncogenes are alternative and mutually exclusive, highlighting their important role in the pathogenesis of GISTs. KIT and PDGFRA mutations represent known prognostic and predictive biomarkers for GISTs and are useful in driving the choice of therapy in the adjuvant and metastatic setting. We are pleased to invite experts in this field to review the current approaches to managing patients with GIST and focus on the molecular and immunological aspects of this heterogeneous group of neoplasms.

## **Guest Editors**

Prof. Dr. Antonio Russo

Prof. Dr. Giuseppe Badalamenti

Dr. Lorena Incorvaia

# Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (1 June 2023)



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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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