Topical Collection

Matrix Effectors and Cancer

Message from the Collection Editors

Extracellular matrices (ECMs) are highly dynamic three-dimensional structural meshworks composed of macromolecules, such as proteoglycans/glycosaminoglycans (PGs/GAGs), collagens, laminins, elastin, glycoproteins and proteinases. Matrix macromolecules are characterized by high structural complexity and heterogeneity. They form complex networks through which they dynamically communicate with cells, thus serving as critical regulators of several homeostatic and pathological processes, such as cancer. ECM molecular composition varies among the tissue of origin and it undergoes significant remodeling during cancer progression. The elucidation of the mechanistic aspects governing matrix assembly and cell–matrix interactions is of critical importance to discover matrix-mediated cancer pathobiology and novel therapeutic approaches. The aim of this Collection of *Cancers* is to highlight the emerging roles of effective matrix macromolecules, including matrix metalloproteinases, proteoglycans, specific types of collagens and matrix (glyco)proteins that play key roles in cancer development and aggressiveness.

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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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