

Special Issue

New Strategies for the Treatment of Melanoma and Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer

Message from the Guest Editors

Since nivolumab became available in clinical practice in 2014, the treatment landscape for skin malignancies has undergone dramatic advancements. Anti-PD-1 antibodies have significantly transformed the treatment of many cancers, including melanoma. Around the same time, the development of molecularly targeted drugs for melanoma was also underway. Based on various clinical trial results, Western countries recommend prioritizing immunotherapy as the first-line treatment for unresectable melanoma, with molecularly targeted therapy used sequentially. However, in East Asian melanoma patients, the efficacy of anti-PD-1 antibodies appears to differ from that observed in Western populations, with lower response rates observed. While clinical trials in Japan are evaluating the effects of anti-PD-1 antibodies on non-melanoma skin cancers, the therapeutic efficacy of immunotherapy for cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma has been found to be lower compared to reports from overseas. This Special Issue discusses the racial differences in the effectiveness of immunotherapy—centered on anti-PD-1 antibodies—from the perspectives of both basic research and clinical studies.

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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.

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