Special Issue

Lynch Syndrome: State of the Art

Message from the Guest Editors

Lynch syndrome (LS) is an autosomal dominant genetic disorder associated with germline mutations in DNA mismatch repair (MMR) genes.The MMR complex loss determines at the somatic level (colorectal-cancer) a condition defined as microsatellite instability (MSI) or mismatch repair-deficiency (dMMR). Colorectal cancers with MSI or dMMR, but without detectable MMR genes germline mutations are termed Lynch-like syndrome (LLS). When this condition occurs in family clusters with strong inheritance for cancers, it becomes very important for the preventive management of LLS patients and their relatives to identify the genetic causes of cancer. To this regard, next-generation sequencing applied to these cases with MSI but without pathogenic variants in MMR genes enables the simultaneous sequencing of hereditary cancer genes. Moreover, very important in these families LLS is also the correct interpretation of uncertain variants identified in MMR genes. However, MSI/dMMR status is not only routinely assessed in colorectal cancer for the initial screening of Lynch syndrome but it is also assessed in evaluation of cancer prognosis, and treatment decision-making.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Paola Izzo

Department of Molecular Medicine and Medical Biotechnology and CEINGE Biotecnologie Avanzate, University of Naples Federico II, 80131 Naples, Italy

Dr. Francesca Duraturo

Department of Molecular Medicine and Medical Biotechnology, University of Naples Federico II, 80131 Naples, Italy

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Cancers
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
cancers@mdpi.com

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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

Prof. Dr. Samuel C. Mok
Department of Gynecologic Oncology and Reproductive Medicine, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX 77030, USA

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