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The Role of Airway Epithelial Cells in Health and Disease

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The airway epithelium provides more than just a physical barrier that protects the body from inhaled pathogens. Airway epithelial cells are crucial for actively maintaining airway surface liquid homeostasis, mucociliary transport, antigen processing, and pathogen sensing. A better understanding of the myriad roles played by airway epithelial cells has been accelerated in recent years by the identification of distinct epithelial cell populations that constitute, and are resident in, the human airways, primarily driven by advances in single-cell RNA sequencing. This information has also been crucial in defining epithelial cell lineage and differentiation, as well as identifying rarer epithelial cells.

The purpose of this Special Issue is to highlight the important role played by distinct types of airway epithelial cells, and how this information is being harnessed to develop new therapeutic strategies for important diseases such as cystic fibrosis, COVID-19, asthma, and pulmonary fibrosis. The goal of this Issue is to provide a broad scope that includes research papers and reviews related to the functional roles of epithelial cells in airway health and disease.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editorial Board

Cells has become a solid international scientific journal that is now indexed on SCIE and in other databases. We have successfully introduced a special issues format so that these issues serve as mini-forums in specific areas of cell science. *Cells* encourages researchers to suggest new special issues, serve as special issues editors, and volunteer to be reviewers. Our main focus will remain on cell anatomy and physiology, the structure and function of organelles, cell adhesion and motility, and the regulation of intracellular signaling, growth, differentiation, and aging. We are open to both original research papers and reviews.

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