

Special Issue

The Effects of Stress on Cells and Organisms

Message from the Guest Editors

Stress is a nonspecific biological response to excessive biotic or abiotic changes. It can affect organisms across all levels of biological organization—from single cells to entire ecosystems. The agents that trigger stress, called stressors, are diverse, and the resulting responses may be genetic, physiological, psychological, or social. When these responses are successful, adaptation restores homeostasis; when they fail, individuals may die or populations may face extinction. Alternatively, organisms may colonize new territories. Adaptation can yield both positive and negative outcomes. For example, cellular stress may lead to diseases such as cancer, yet from an evolutionary standpoint, it can also drive speciation, create new ecological niches, and increase biodiversity. This Special Issue invites contributions from researchers investigating the causes and effects of stress at any level—from cellular to ecosystem-wide. Our goal is to build a comprehensive understanding of biological stress that deepens insights into evolutionary history and equips us to address future challenges, including disease and global environmental change.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

10 October 2026



Cells

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.2
CiteScore 10.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/272938

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About the Journal

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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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.5 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.8 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).