

Special Issue

The Placental Matrix: Trophoblasts, Decidualization, and Embryo Implantation

Message from the Guest Editor

The placenta is essential for pregnancy success, orchestrating a complex interplay between trophoblast differentiation, decidualization, and immune modulation to ensure proper embryo implantation and maternal–fetal communication. Disruptions in these tightly regulated processes, especially due to inflammation and environmental toxicants, can trigger severe pregnancy complications, including implantation failure, pre-eclampsia, fetal growth restriction, and long-term offspring health consequences. Deciphering the molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying these interactions is critical for developing targeted interventions to improve reproductive outcomes. This Special Issue delves into the latest advancements in placental biology, immune crosstalk, and reproductive toxicology, shedding light on how environmental and inflammatory factors shape pregnancy health.

Guest Editor

Dr. Vinay Shukla

Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences,
School of Medicine, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD 21201, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 May 2026)



Cells

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.2
CiteScore 10.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/232026

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

[mdpi.com/journal/
cells](https://mdpi.com/journal/cells)





Cells

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.2
CiteScore 10.5
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/
cells](https://mdpi.com/journal/cells)



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.

Editors-in-Chief

Dr. Alexander E. Kalyuzhny

Dental Basic Sciences, University of Minnesota, 308 Harvard St. SE,
Minneapolis, MN 55455, USA

Prof. Dr. Cord Brakebusch

Biotech Research & Innovation Centre, The University of Copenhagen,
Copenhagen, Denmark

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Cell Biology) / CiteScore - Q1 (General Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology)

Rapid Publication:

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).