

## Special Issue

# Gene Regulation in Epithelial Cells

### Message from the Guest Editor

The epithelium not only constitutes a first-line physical and immune barrier against pathogens but also plays vital functions such as absorption, secretion, sensation, and healing, as well as crosstalk with the microbiome. Genetic and epigenetic dysregulation of epithelial cells is characteristic of many rare and common diseases of the skin (e.g., psoriasis), the gut (e.g., inflammatory bowel disease), and the airways (e.g., asthma). Studies on gene-regulatory mechanisms have led to an enhanced understanding and new treatment strategies in these complex diseases. However, responses to current treatments vary among different patients and in the same patient over time. Therefore, there is still a need to improve our understanding of the intricate genetic and epigenetic regulatory mechanisms controlling epithelium cells in various tissues. This Special Issue will showcase high-quality original manuscripts and reviews covering recent biomedical results related to epithelial development and functions and crosstalk with the microbiome/mycobiome, as well as responses to aging, microbial infection, and wound healing.

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### Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Jennifer Zhang  
Department of Dermatology, Duke University, Durham, NC, USA

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 June 2026



## Cells

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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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### Editors-in-Chief

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#### Journal Rank:

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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).