

Special Issue

Cancer Immunotherapy Harnessing Innate and Adaptive Immune Effector Cells and PD-1 Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

Message from the Guest Editor

The development of immune checkpoint inhibitors—anti-cytotoxic T lymphocyte antigen 4 (CTLA-4) mAb, anti-programmed death-1 (PD-1) mAb and anti-PD-1 ligand 1 (PD-L1) mAb, and chimeric antigen-receptor (CAR)-T cells—suddenly revolutionized cancer treatments in 2010s. Within this Special Issue of *Cells*, we will highlight the molecular mechanisms and future directions of PD-1 immune checkpoint inhibitor combination therapy and immune effector cells-based immunotherapies. To this end, we invite the submission of original articles and reviews in this exciting field of research. Keywords

- PD-1 immune checkpoint
- CAR-T cells
- T cells
- NK cells

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Yoshimasa Tanaka

Center for Medical Innovation, Nagasaki University, Nagasaki 852-8588, Japan

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 February 2026)



Cells

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.2
CiteScore 10.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/154668

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).