Special Issue

Advances in Adipose Tissue Biology

Message from the Guest Editor

Much progress in the past two decades has revolutionized our understanding of adipose tissues in the body. Fat is no longer simply thought of as a homogeneous organ that shields the body from cold and mechanical shocks. Once believed to be an inert fat depot with few biological properties, recent advances facilitated by cutting-edge 'omics' and other novel scientific methodologies have probed and elucidated the pleiotropic nature of this organ at the molecular level. The disruption of adipocyte homeostasis by both genes and the environment with consequent metabolic dysfunction contributes to system-wide inflammation that underlies many non-communicable chronic disease pandemics, such as non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and even cancers.

The study of adipose biology has thus entered a new era. In this respect, this Special Issue aims to showcase scientific advances and fascinating discoveries that may not only be translated to the bedside and address the burgeoning toll exacted by obesity, diabetes and the like, but also further propel both basic scientists and clinical researchers to greater breakthroughs.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Melvin K. S. Leow

1. Department of Endocrinology, Division of Medicine, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore 308433, Singapore
2. Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore 636921, Singapore
3. Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, Brenner Centre for Molecular Medicine, Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), Singapore 117609, Singapore
4. Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disorders Program, Duke-NUS Medical School, Singapore 169857, Singapore
5. Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, Singapore 117597, Singapore

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

mdpi.com/journal/cells

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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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Dr. Alexander E. Kalyuzhny
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