Special Issue

CD4+ T Cells in Antitumor Immunity

Message from the Guest Editor

Cancer immunotherapy is emerging as a revolutionary cancer treatment that engages the immune system to eliminate tumor cells. Given the central role of T cells in tumor eradication, multiple T cell-based therapies, such as immune checkpoint blockade (ICB) and adoptive T cell therapy (ACT), have been developed to treat cancer patients in clinics. While most immunotherapies focus on harnessing cytotoxic CD8+ T cells, mounting evidence indicates that CD4+ T cells are increasingly recognized as a critical cornerstone of effective antitumor immunity by orchestrating a broad spectrum of immune cells, including CD8+ T cells, natural killer (NK) cells, and macrophages. The major barriers to effective CD4+ T cell immunotherapy include tumor-induced tolerance featured by hypo-proliferation and an inability to produce effector cytokines, the immunologically "cold" tumor microenvironment (TME) devoid of immune infiltration, and loss of function (exhaustion) in the face of persistent antigenic stimulation. Therefore, there is an urgent demand for novel strategies that can overcome these barriers to potentiate CD4+ T cell immunotherapy.

Guest Editor

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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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