Special Issue

Extracellular Matrix in the Tumor Microenvironment and Its Impact on Cancer Therapy

Message from the Guest Editors

The extracellular matrix (ECM) is a major structural component of the tumor microenvironment (TME) and comprised of a network of biochemically distinct components. In cancer, abnormal ECM dynamics are caused by alterations in ECM synthesis and secretion as well as the expression or function of matrix-remodeling enzymes. This special issue of *Cells* aims to explore the role of the ECM in regulating cancer cells and various TME components and how it affects cancer therapy. Research areas include (but are not limited to): the role of ECM molecules and ECM modifying enzymes in regulating physical and chemical properties of TME or metastatic niche; ECM regulation of cellular and molecular phenotypes of cancer cells, stoma cells, or immune cells in the TME; the role of ECM in cancer stemness; the impact of ECM on tumor-stroma interaction; molecular mechanisms by which ECM promotes therapeutic resistance; novel techniques for visualization or investigation of ECM functions in cancer in vitro or in vivo; use of ECM as a diagnostic or prognostic tool; and novel ECM-targeting therapeutic strategies for cancer.

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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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