Special Issue

Harnessing the Immune System to Fight Pediatric Cancer

Message from the Guest Editor

Pediatric cancer presents unique treatment challenges but also opportunities. Current treatment strategies typically involve the use of highly toxic drugs, which can result in life-long side effects. Treatment failure and relapse lead to increasingly worse outcomes and side effects from increasingly toxic therapies. Although children are not simply smaller adults, and pediatric cancers are fundamentally different in their etiology, treatments have largely been adapted from adult research. Pediatric cancers typically lack the large number of mutations that often make immunotherapy effective. However, genomic medicine offers the opportunity to identify genetic and, perhaps more importantly, epigenetic changes that might be targeted by molecular and immune-based therapies. This Special Issue will review how the genomes and epigenomes of pediatric patients are unique and potentially targetable. Identifying rare genetic and epigenetic variants that contribute to pediatric cancer will help to identify new treatment options. In addition, further development of immunotherapy for pediatric patients can improve the treatment paradigm and long-term outcomes for this unique population.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (28 February 2023)



Cells

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Impact Factor 5.2 CiteScore 10.5 Indexed in PubMed



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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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