

## Special Issue

# Targeting Cellular Microenvironment in Aging and Disease

### Message from the Guest Editors

In this Special Issue, we aim to explore how the cellular microenvironment can be targeted to prevent or modify the time course of diseases in different organs, including the brain, cartilage, skin, liver, lung, kidney and cardiovascular system. Particularly, but not exclusively, we expect to collect reviews, as well as experimental and bioinformatic studies focusing on the following:

- New mechanisms of extracellular signaling, particularly “vicious cycles” linking impaired proteostasis, aggregation of peptides/proteins, extracellular vesicle release and inflammation with ECM and tissue remodeling;
- Cellular dysfunctions during acute and chronic phases of tissue repair triggered by the dysregulation of extracellular proteases and their tissue inhibitors;
- Role of extracellular vesicles in pathophysiological and recovery mechanisms;
- Novel antifibrotic strategies;
- Drugs targeting biosynthesis, glycosylation, proteolysis and other posttranslational modifications of ECM molecules and their receptors, and related biomarkers;
- Emerging gene therapies targeting the regulation of ECM abundance and composition.

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### Guest Editors

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 March 2026)



## Cells

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## 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.

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### Editors-in-Chief

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#### 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).