Special Issue

From Development to Death: Molecular Pathways inside the Oocyte

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue of *Cells* will address the biology, developmental competence and limited reproductive lifespan of an oocyte, a cell that is of general interest worldwide. In the last three decades, reproductive medicine has gained the attention of both researchers and doctors, since there are important implications for society, as the number of first pregnancies at advanced reproductive age, 35 years and above, has increased significantly in most industrialized countries. As a consequence, a growing number of women will depend on assisted reproductive technologies (ART) to become pregnant, based on their wish to postpone childbearing. Although fundamental advances have been generated in the field of reproductive medicine and assisted reproductive technologies, molecular factors and pathways that could be pivotal for the oocyte's developmental competence and lifespan remain elusive. Therefore, in this Special Issue, we intend to cover all topics related to the biology and molecular biology of a mammalian oocyte, ranging from oogenesis and the development and maturation of oocytes, to follicular atresia and cell death.

Guest Editors

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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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