Special Issue

Autophagy Genes—Biological Functions

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear colleagues, Autophagy is a process through which damaged or unnecessary cellular components are degraded by lysosomes. Autophagy generally plays a critical pro-survival role in cellular homeostasis by removing accumulated debris and by regulating adaptation to metabolic stress. However, under specific conditions, autophagy may trigger cell death and promote cancer progression. Autophagy-related (ATG) proteins are required throughout the multiple stages of autophagosome formation in “canonical” autophagy. ATG proteins were first identified in yeast and are well-conserved across organisms. Recent studies have revealed that they are also involved in “non-canonical” functions that do not involve classical autophagosome formation or do not terminate with autophagosome-lysosome fusion. These functions are critical to host–pathogen interactions and immune signaling. This Special Issue will address various biological functions of several different autophagy-related genes in relation to normal cellular physiology and the pathophysiology of human disease.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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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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