Special Issue

Liver Constituent Cells: Their Niche, Close Intercellular Relationship and Crosstalk with the Extracellular Environment—Current and Future Perspectives

Message from the Guest Editors

The liver is complex anatomy-wise and comprises different specialised cell types. Within the hepatic parenchyma, mainly formed by hepatocytes, it is possible to identify a liver microcirculatory milieu composed of liver sinusoidal endothelial cells (LSECs), hepatic stellate cells (HSCs) and resident macrophages (Kupffer cells). Also present in the hepatic parenchyma are biliary ductules made up by cholangiocytes. Sinusoids, hepatocytes and biliary ductules are anatomically similar, and the extracellular matrix takes part not only in spatial arrangement, but also in cellular crosstalk. The 3D structure, together with the composition of the extracellular matrix and the cell behaviour, is strictly involved in the liver physiological and pathophysiological processes. This Special Issue aims to both report the most recent findings and current opinions on the biological constituents of the liver, their niche and the close intercellular relationship and crosstalk at anatomical and cell molecular levels in both health and disease. Priority will be given to research on the biological barriers formed during liver disease, their description and the therapeutic approaches to overcome them.

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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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