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Beyond Immunotherapy in the Management of Genito-Urinary Malignancies

Guest Editors:

Dr. Ricardo Fernandes

1. Division of Medical Oncology,
Department of Oncology,
Schulich School of Medicine &
Dentistry, Western University,
London, ON N6A 5W9, Canada
2. Medical Imaging Department,
Division of Nuclear Medicine,
Victoria Hospital, London Health
Sciences Centre, Western
University, London, ON N6A 3K7,
Canada

Dr. Aly-Khan Lalani

Juravinski Cancer Centre,
Department of Oncology,
McMaster University, Hamilton,
Ontario L8S 4L8, Canada

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Immunotherapy with immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs) has changed oncology practice in the last decade. The members of this class of agents include: ipilimumab, a cytotoxic T lymphocyte-associated protein 4 (CTLA-4) inhibitor; nivolumab and pembrolizumab, antiprogrammed cell death 1 (PD-1) agents; atezolizumab, durvalumab, and avelumab, which are antiprogrammed cell death-ligand 1 (PD-L1) agents. ICIs have become the standard treatment in genito-urinary malignancies, including first-line and second-line treatments for renal cell carcinoma and urothelial carcinoma.

Despite the clinical efficacy of the checkpoint blockade, most cancer patients still do not derive durable benefits from these therapies. Moreover, ICIs can induce various immune-related adverse events (irAEs), limiting their use in many patients. ICIs may affect peripheral tolerance to autoantigens, resulting in autoantibody formation, which could be associated with irAEs in various organs.



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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Shahid Ahmed

1. College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK S7N5E5, Canada

2. Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, Saskatoon Cancer Center, Saskatoon, SK S7N5H5, Canada

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Current Oncology Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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