



## Hydrogels for Cartilage Tissue Engineering and Mechanobiology

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (31 July 2025)**

### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Hydrogels are increasingly recognized as a crucial material in the field of tissue engineering and mechanobiological studies. In cartilage tissue engineering and mechanobiological studies, hydrogels can be used to support the growth and proliferation of chondrocytes, thanks to their flexibility and suppleness, which closely emulate the mechanical properties of native cartilage. Furthermore, engineered hydrogels can be designed to degrade at a rate synchronized with the growth of new tissue, thereby supporting the fusion of the new tissue with the body.

The ability of hydrogels to mimic the natural extracellular matrix (ECM), positions them as desirable candidates for creating scaffolds aimed at supporting tissue regeneration. However, challenges persist, notably in matching hydrogel degradation rates with tissue growth and enhancing mechanical properties without compromising biocompatibility and bioactivity. Nevertheless, ongoing research and development endeavors hold promise for overcoming these hurdles and further enhancing the efficacy of hydrogels in cartilage mechanobiological research and skeletal tissue engineering applications.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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