



## ALT: From Telomere Maintenance Mechanisms to Proposed Therapies

Guest Editors:

**Prof. Antonella Sgura**

Department of Science,  
University of Rome "Roma Tre",  
Rome, Italy

antonella.sgura@uniroma3.it

**Dr. Ion Udroi**

Department of Science,  
University of Rome "Roma Tre",  
Rome, Italy

ion.udroi@uniroma3.it

**Dr. Francesco Berardinelli**

Department of Science,  
University of Rome "Roma Tre",  
Rome, Italy

francesco.berardinelli@  
uniroma3.it

Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**15 November 2019**

### Message from the Guest Editors

ALT is one of the Telomere Maintenance Mechanisms. Because the mechanism was unknown at the beginning, many studies were aimed to point out the molecular markers of ALT, since the only distinctive known feature at the time was telomere length maintenance in absence of telomerase. Nowadays, ALT cells have been characterized by different markers widely accepted, but the mechanism and the events triggering ALT are still little known.

The complexity of the ALT mechanisms is one of the keys to unfold the heterogeneous behavior of ALT tumors in terms of disease progression and response to treatment. As a consequence, while specific telomerase drugs have been discovered and are presently employed in clinical applications, the therapeutic relevance of molecular players involved in ALT is still debated. Furthermore, considering the role of telomere in chromosome structure and therefore in genome stability and in tumor progression, the mechanisms involved in telomere maintenance need to be clarified and great efforts are needed to allow an in-depth comprehension of the ALT molecular mechanisms; especially in order to develop specific and effective anticancer strategies.





*genes*



an Open Access Journal by MDPI

## Editor-in-Chief

### **Prof. Dr. J. Peter W. Young**

Department of Biology, University  
of York, Heslington, York YO10  
5DD, UK

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes are central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fastmoving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised.

Why not consider *Genes* for your next genetics paper?

## Author Benefits

**Open Access:** Free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

**High visibility:** Covered by **Science Citation Index Expanded** (Web of Science) and Scopus. Citations are available in PubMed, full-text archived in PubMed Central.

**Rapid publication:** manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision provided to authors approximately 19.6 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2019).

## Contact Us

---

*Genes*  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
Fax: +41 61 302 89 18  
www.mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/genes  
genes@mdpi.com  
@Genes\_MDPI