

Special Issue

The Origins and Evolution of Genes, Genetic Code and Proteins

Message from the Guest Editor

The genetic system, composed of genes, genetic codes (tRNA) and proteins, is the most fundamental system to the existence of life. Therefore, elucidating the origin of the genetic system is essential for understanding the origin of life and how the first life arose on Earth.

However, it is still a mystery that has not been solved, as the origin of life has mainly been studied in terms of the RNA world hypothesis. Therefore, in this Special Issue, “The origins of genes, genetic code and proteins”, we seek to publish research that discusses the questions “how were the four parts of the genetic system formed?”, “how was the first genetic system itself established?”, “what is necessary to elucidate the mystery of the origin of life?” and so on.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Kenji Ikehara

G&L Kyosei Institute, The Keihanna Academy of Science and Culture (KASC), Keihanna Interaction Plaza, Laboratory Wing 3F, 1-7 Hikaridai, Seika-cho, Souraku, Kyoto 619-0237, Japan

Deadline for manuscript submissions

15 October 2025

G C A T
T A C G
G C A T

Genes

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.8
CiteScore 5.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/223487

Genes
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
genes@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
genes](https://mdpi.com/journal/genes)



G C A T
T A C G
G C A T

Genes

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.8
CiteScore 5.5
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/
genes](https://mdpi.com/journal/genes)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes is central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fast-moving 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?

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Selvarangan Ponnazhagan
Department of Pathology, The University of Alabama at Birmingham,
1825 University Blvd, SHEL 814, Birmingham, AL 35294-2182, USA

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, Embase, PubAg, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Genetics and Heredity) / CiteScore - Q2 (Genetics (clinical))