

Special Issue

Genetics and Epigenetics of Allergy Diseases

Message from the Guest Editors

Allergic diseases are a clear example of complex multifactorial diseases mediated by the interaction of different genetic and epigenetic factors. Whole genome sequencing studies and polygenic risk score analyses in well-characterized homogeneous populations have provided a wealth of information on many susceptibility genes. However, many gene associations have not been able to be replicated. In this sense, epigenetic factors provide additional information that could explain not only the discrepancies observed between monozygotic twins but also phenomena such as incomplete penetrance, variable expression, gender and progenitor effects. Different studies have shown a connection between disease susceptibility and environmental exposure during intrauterine life or early childhood, potentially mediated by epigenetic modifications. In response to an environmental challenge, epigenetic modifications allow an adaptive change that modifies gene expression and leads to the triggering of allergic diseases. In this Special Issue, different genetic and epigenetic factors involved in the development of allergic diseases will be considered.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (1 March 2022)

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CiteScore 5.5
Indexed in PubMed



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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?

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