Special Issue

Molecular Genetics of Facial Traits and Malformations

Message from the Guest Editors

The human face is arguably our most individual characteristic. Its morphogenesis is largely completed in the first trimester and occurs in a highly stereotypical fashion through the precise orchestration of cellular behaviors by conserved genetic programs. In the last few years, many new advances have been made in understanding the genetic contributions to populationlevel variation in facial form, as well as in determining the genetic basis of both rare and common malformations of the facial complex. Furthermore, studies on the function of these genes have highlighted core biological pathways and developmental mechanisms that typically coordinate normal facial development. Topics might include but are not necessarily limited to studies on rare (syndromic) conditions, common or isolated facial traits and anomalies, epigenetic and functional approaches in relevant tissues or cell types, and investigation or description of new animal models.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 October 2019)

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CiteScore 5.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/25305

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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?

Editor-in-Chief

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