

Special Issue

Male Reproduction: Regulation, Differentiation and Epigenetics

Message from the Guest Editors

Infertility is a global problem affecting 15%–20% of couples. This condition, equally distributed between males and females, can have several causes, including genetic or epigenetic defects, hypogonadism, as well as environmental and pathological issues. In particular, good-quality spermatozoa with normal morphology and motility are essential for male fertility. Sperm production occurs in the testis and involves the gradual differentiation of germ cells. The whole process is harmonized not only by a cell type- and stage-specific induction or repression of the expression of specific genes, but it is also regulated by gonadotropins, steroid hormones, and a complex network of autocrine and paracrine factors. All of the phases leading to the production of mature spermatozoa (spermatogenesis, spermiogenesis, and their hormonal control) can be affected by environmental pollutants such as endocrine disruptors, drugs, and micro- and nanoplastics. This Special Issue, in addition to expanding the current knowledge on this topic, may be a useful guide for the researchers interested in the field of male infertility.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Sergio Minucci

Dipartimento di Medicina Sperimentale, Sez. Fisiologia Umana e Funzioni Biologiche Integrate, Università degli Studi della Campania 'Luigi Vanvitelli', Via Santa Maria di Costantinopoli, 16-80138 Napoli, Italy

Dr. Massimo Venditti

Dipartimento di Medicina Sperimentale, Sez. Fisiologia Umana e Funzioni Biologiche Integrate, Università degli Studi della Campania 'Luigi Vanvitelli', Via Santa Maria di Costantinopoli, 16-80138 Napoli, Italy

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

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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

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

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