Special Issue

Genetic Disorders of the TGF Signaling Family

Message from the Guest Editor

The TGF superfamily of signaling molecules, in humans, includes over 30 ligands that are clustered into several sub-families, all that signal through one or more of the five type II receptors, seven type I receptors, five receptor-associated Smad signal transducers, Smad1, Smad2, Smad3, Smad5 and Smad8, and a single Smad4 nucleocytoplasmic shuttling co-Smad, Smad4. These signaling pathways play critical roles in embryonic development and are frequently perturbed in common disease processes such as cancer, cardiovascular disease and immunity, and drugs that target pathway components have been developed for therapeutic purposes. Gain- or loss-of-function mutations in pathway components cause various human genetic disorders that manifest as abnormal patterns of skeletal-muscular growth and dysmorphology, as well as cardiovascular and premalignant syndromes. This Special Issue will focus on human genetic disorders caused by mutations in components of the TGF signaling superfamily, the novel molecular mechanistic insights gained from study of these genetic disorders, and therapeutic approaches developed for their treatment.

Guest Editor

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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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