

## Special Issue

# Cell–Cell Communication Through Extracellular Vesicles

### Message from the Guest Editor

The release of extracellular vesicles (EVs) is a highly conserved biological event in prokaryotes and eukaryotes, which appears to be a common process shared by virtually all cell types. In recent years, an increasing number of diverse EVs have been described, secreted by cells of different origins and conditions. EVs appear to represent the evolutionary strategy for cell–cell communication under physiological, altered and pathological conditions. The biological advantage of using EVs stems from their ability to stabilise and protect cargo molecules, such as nucleic acids and proteins, to evade degradation and immunosurveillance mechanisms. The membrane composition, trafficking and content of EVs are highly regulated by several energy-dependent steps in a complex and tightly regulated endosomal biogenesis, which needs further investigation. EVs represent a remarkable target for biomedical research; for biomarker identification; for membrane structural organisation in EVs biogenesis and trafficking; for cell–cell communication in pathological contexts, such as metastatic processes or host–pathogen interplay; and, interestingly, for drug delivery.

### Guest Editor

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