

Special Issue

Pathogenesis and New Therapeutic Approaches for Fibrosing Diseases—the Skin as a Model System

Message from the Guest Editors

The skin represents an exceptional suitable system to follow disease development and to study molecular and cellular mechanisms. It has been demonstrated that data obtained in the skin reflect general mechanisms also acting in other organs. In this Special Issue, we concentrate on fibrosing skin diseases, describe their heterogeneity, and discuss novel therapeutic approaches generated by a better understanding of pathogenetic mechanisms. Most of these diseases are due to early vascular damage followed by an inflammatory reaction, which finally leads to fibrosis. There have been many important developments addressing these concepts, which lead to new therapies of organ complications in these diseases, which have created major implications for the quality of life of the patients. Although some information stems from the experimental work carried out in recent years on systemic sclerosis, we have nonetheless been careful to also highlight wider implications, especially for collateral diseases in which fibrosis also represents a significant phenomenon.

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