

Special Issue

The Alveolar Epithelium: Mechanisms of Injury and Repair

Message from the Guest Editors

Alveolar epithelial cells (AECs) of the lung importantly contribute to pulmonary immune functions and to pulmonary development and alveolar repair mechanisms following lung injury. AECI, together with the capillary endothelium, form the extremely thin barrier between alveolar air and blood. AECII produce and metabolize the surface-tension lowering and immune-modulating surfactant and are the progenitors of AECI. A great variety of processes rely on their normal functioning, including the maintenance of the alveolar barrier; innate immune defense; and processes of differentiation, senescence, apoptosis, and autophagy. In this Special Issue, we welcome your contributions, original papers, or review articles, on all aspects of alveolar epithelial function, including normal and pathological development, acute and chronic forms of injury and repair, as well as new regenerative approaches

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