

Special Issue

Obesity and Cancer Risk: Molecular Mechanisms and Perspectives

Message from the Guest Editor

The global incidence and prevalence of obesity have dramatically risen over the last few decades. Epidemiological data suggest that obesity is associated with an increased risk of several, but not all, types of cancer, with marked gender-specific differences. The underlying mechanisms are still a matter of debate, with current experimental evidence suggesting the involvement of insulin resistance and low-grade inflammation in visceral fat tissue with the secretion of pro-inflammatory cytokines and adipokines, as well as an important role of sex hormones and gut microbiota. Most intriguingly, these factors contribute in a highly variable manner to the initiation of different tumor entities and eventually act directly or indirectly on the tumor environment to drive tumor progression. This also clearly implies that therapeutic strategies will have to be based on these mechanisms and must be precisely targeted. This issue of *IJMS* is thus devoted to deciphering the molecular basis of tumor initiation and growth in obesity and providing a rational basis for precision management.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Hendrik Lehnert

Warwickshire Institute for the Study of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism (WISDEM), University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire(UHCW), Coventry CV2 2DX, UK

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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Prof. Dr. José L. Quiles
Department of Physiology, Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology
"Jose Mataix", Biomedical Research Center, University of Granada,
Avda. Conocimiento s/n, 18100 Armilla, Granada, Spain

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