

Special Issue

Extracellular Vesicles and Metastatic Niche

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear colleagues,

Extracellular vesicles (EVs) are membrane-enclosed particles released by both normal and tumor cells that operate as heterogeneous multisignal messengers involved in cell-to cell communication.

In cancer, EVs mediate the tumor-stroma interaction affecting, among other things, cell proliferation, angiogenesis, immune surveillance and drug resistance, thus supporting cancer growth. The tumor promoting activities of EVs are not restricted to local tumor microenvironment but also include dissemination, since EVs can enter the blood circulation, reach distant organs and, there, educate resident cells to generate favorable environmental conditions; this process is known as pre-metastatic niche formation.

This Special Issue will comprise a selection of research papers and reviews covering various aspects of biochemistry, molecular and cellular biology on the role of EVs in the metastatic niche. Contributions on cell-signaling pathways involved, functional studies, and molecular characterization, will be welcome. Studies on the set up of specific *in vitro* and *in vivo* models will also be considered.

Guest Editors

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The International Journal of Molecular Sciences (*IJMS*, ISSN 1422-0067) is an open access journal, which was established in 2000. The journal aims to provide a forum for scholarly research on a range of topics, including biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, molecular biophysics, molecular medicine, and all aspects of molecular research in chemistry. *IJMS* publishes both original research and review articles, and regularly publishes special issues to highlight advances at the cutting edge of research. We invite you to read recent articles published in *IJMS* and consider publishing your next paper with us.

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