

## Special Issue

# The Human Fetal Membranes: A Versatile Tissue Important for Pregnancy Health and Regenerative Therapies

### Message from the Guest Editors

The human fetal membranes are an important but understudied gestational tissue. They are key for the health of the developing fetus, providing both mechanical and immune protection, along with a large surface area for fetal-to-maternal communication during pregnancy. Although physiologic labor-related signaling cascades induce ruptures at term, premature rupture of the membranes can contribute to Preterm birth onset. Preterm birth, along with other adverse pregnancy outcomes, remain the leading cause of infant mortality and morbidity globally. Premature rupture of membranes also contributes to the high rates of preterm birth by precipitating preterm labor or by increasing the vulnerability of the fetus to ascending infection. This special edition focuses on both the fundamental molecular basis of its strength, development, and the pathological mechanism(s) leading to adverse pregnancy outcomes.

### Guest Editors

Dr. Claire E. Kendal-Wright

Natural Science and Mathematics, Chaminade University of Honolulu,  
Honolulu, HI 96816, USA

Dr. Lauren Richardson

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Division of Basic and  
Translational Research, The University of Texas Medical Branch at  
Galveston, Galveston, TX 77555, USA

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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Editorial Office  
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4052 Basel, Switzerland  
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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of Odontostomatologic and Specialized Clinical Sciences,  
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of Medicine, Università Politecnica delle  
Marche, Via Ranieri 65, 60100 Ancona, Italy

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