

Special Issue

Genes, Environment and Cancer

Message from the Guest Editors

Pollution is known to cause and exacerbate a number of chronic diseases, including cancer. In particular, the genetic and epigenetic susceptibility to cancer actually reinforce the concept of an environmental origin of many cancers. However, there is still a scientific debate as to whether cancer may be caused by the numerous polluting-activity-associated carcinogenic compounds. A clear example of this relationship is represented by malignant mesothelioma (MM). MM is a rare and highly fatal form of cancer of the pleura (or more rarely, peritoneum or pericardium) that is caused by the inhalation of asbestos and other mineral fibers. Most research efforts have focused on occupational exposure to asbestos and have demonstrated their carcinogenicity in animals and humans. However, the role of toxic environmental agents in the genesis of cancers affecting the general population, and the determination of the fraction of overall cancers attributable to pollution, remain issues worth investigation. Therefore, further research will need to explore this and provide a more comprehensive understanding of the problem.

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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