

## Special Issue

# Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition (EMT) 2.0

### Message from the Guest Editors

Epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) is a biological process that allows an epithelial cell to assume a mesenchymal phenotype. It is initiated by different molecular processes, including activation of transcriptional factors, expression of specific cell-surface proteins, reorganization and expression of cytoskeletal proteins, production of ECM-degrading enzymes, and changes in microRNAs expression. There are both endogenous cell autonomous and exogenous noncell autonomous signals occurring in the process, including pathways orchestrated by TGF- $\beta$ , Notch, Wnt, Hedgehog, and receptor tyrosine kinases, as well as the urokinase plasminogen activator system, the secretome of associated fibroblasts, macrophages, cancer stem cells and cancer cells, and exosomes with their cargo of microRNAs.

However, relatively little is known about how all these components are integrated and participate in the same process, and how the mesenchymal state is maintained. Deep knowledge of these aspects will help design potential therapeutic approaches that could exploit the plasticity of EMT to reverse the metastatic phenotype of many cancers. Papers related to any aspect of EMT will be considered.

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### Guest Editors

Dr. Monica Fedele

Institute of Endotypes in Oncology, Metabolism and Immunology (IEOMI) "G. Salvatore", Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), 80131 Naples, Italy

Prof. Dr. Manioletti Guidalberto

Department of Life Sciences, University of Trieste, 34127 Trieste, Italy

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 September 2020)



## International Journal of Molecular Sciences

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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
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Department of Physiology, Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology  
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