

## Special Issue

# Matricellular Proteins in Human Diseases

### Message from the Guest Editors

MCPs play critical roles in cardiovascular and skeletal development, injury repair, fibrotic diseases, and cancer. In this Special Issue, therefore, the role of these proteins in tumor initiation, growth, invasion, metastasis, and angiogenesis will be included. Further, their potential as biomarkers and therapeutic targets should be presented. The plasma levels of matricellular proteins were found to reflect the disease severities in various infectious diseases in COVID-19 patients, probably because matricellular proteins are one of the most functional extracellular proteins that are associated with inflammatory edema. MCPs are also associated with cardiovascular events, independent of conventional cardiovascular risk factors. Thus, MCPs can also be a therapeutic target for cardiovascular diseases. Furthermore, these proteins are known to be involved in the central nervous system, skeletal muscle diseases, and interstitial diseases. In this Special Issue, the roles of MCPs in various human diseases will be presented to disclose their true faces.

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### Guest Editors

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Dr. Yosuke Maeda

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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## International Journal of Molecular Sciences

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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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