

Special Issue

The Stromal-Epithelial Dialogues in Health and Disease

Message from the Guest Editor

Epithelial tissues are the main interfaces between inner body and the external world. Their renewal and integrity are crucial to preserve body from damage generated by harmful substances and exposures. In order to assure their maintenance and multiple roles, epithelia are supported by the stroma that corresponds to the connective tissue whose main functions, in regard to the epithelia and aside from immunity, are mechanical and metabolic. Stroma is composed of cellular compartment and acellular one. In homeostasis, actors of both stromal compartments are active players in the regulation of the renewal, differentiation, integrity, and functions of epithelial tissues. It is established that under pathological conditions, alteration of either the epithelial or the stromal tissue will immediately affect the other.

This Issue focuses on the latest advances in understanding the stromal–epithelial dialogue involved in physiological and/or pathological contexts. We will address how it participates to cell fates, tissue architecture and remodeling, during the different steps of development, under homeostasis or disease status, and the cellular and molecular events involved.

Guest Editor

Dr. Audrey Ferrand

IRSD, Université de Toulouse, INSERM, INRA, ENVT, UPS, 31024 Toulouse, France

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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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.

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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