

Special Issue

Extracellular Vesicles and Tumour Microenvironment

Message from the Guest Editor

Tumor-derived exosomes are emerging mediators of tumorigenesis. Exosomes are small membrane extracellular vesicles (EVs) (40–150 nm) derived from the luminal membranes of multivesicular bodies and are released via fusion with the cell membrane. Exosomes contain bioactive molecules, such as nucleic acids (DNA, mRNA, miRNA, and other noncoding RNAs), proteins (receptors, transcription factors, enzymes, extracellular matrix proteins), and lipids that can redirect the function of a recipient cell. During primary tumor formation, tumor cells require active communication with neighboring cells and their local microenvironment. In recent years, the critical role of EVs in cell–cell communications between tumor cells and surrounding cells in the primary tumor microenvironment has been highlighted. Here, we focus on the role of EVs, and in particular of exosomes, as critical mediators of intracellular communication between tumor cells and stromal cells in local and distant microenvironments.

Guest Editor

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