

Special Issue

Autoimmune Connective Tissue Diseases: Pathogenesis and Treatment

Message from the Guest Editor

Autoimmune connective tissue diseases (ACTDs) are a heterogeneous group of chronic immune-mediated inflammatory disorders, primarily affecting connective tissues and clinically characterized by variable multisystem manifestations, frequently overlapping. The causes and molecular mechanisms underlying the onset of ACTDs have not yet been fully understood. Although recent advances in understanding pathogenesis have led to major advances in targeted therapy, they still remain incurable. Novel biologic drugs, cell therapy and hematopoietic stem cell transplantation have generated real hope for the development of future treatments. The aim of this Special Issue is to highlight recent advances in the context of the pathogenesis and treatment of autoimmune connective tissue diseases. **Relevant topics include:**

- The molecular mechanisms underlying the onset of ACTDs
- The role of genetics and epigenetics in the development of ACTDs
- Differential diagnostic approaches
- The evaluation of biomarkers for diagnosis, prognosis and drug response
- Novel therapy for ACTDs

Guest Editor

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