

Special Issue

Immune Microenvironment in Solid and Hematological Malignancies

Message from the Guest Editor

The aim of this issue is to provide an overview of current knowledge on the crucial mechanisms promoting tumor niche interactions and mediating immunosuppression during cancer development and progression. Despite significant improvements in therapy during the last decade, most cancer patients develop refractory disease over time. Treatment of refractory malignancy is a major challenge, likely due to the still poorly characterized inter- and intratumor heterogeneity and the complex interplay of neoplastic cells with the tumor microenvironment. In particular, there is an urgent need to unravel how these features of the cancer neighborhood are linked to molecular mechanisms of drug resistance and aggressive phenotype. As is now well known, tumors grow and evolve through a constant crosstalk with the surrounding milieu, and emerging evidence indicates that several gatekeepers and immune-tolerogenic environments frequently occur simultaneously in response to this crosstalk. Accordingly, strategies combining anti-tumor therapy and immunotherapy seem to hold the promise to tip the balance of the cancer niche and improve patient outcomes. I look forward to collaborating with you.

Guest Editor

Dr. Antonio G. Solimando

Unit of Internal Medicine "Guido Baccelli", Department of Precision and Regenerative Medicine and Ionian Area (DiMePRE-J), University of Bari Aldo Moro, 70124 Bari, Italy

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Journal of Clinical Medicine
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
jcm@mdpi.com

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