

Special Issue

Testicular Cancer: A New Generation of Biomarkers for Malignant Germ Cell Cancer

Message from the Guest Editor

Testicular germ cell tumors (TGCTs) are the most common neoplasia in young men. Although therapeutic approaches have improved, approximately 25% of the patients relapse or drug-resistant disease. For decades, clinical management has relied on classic serum tumors markers. However, these markers are only elevated in ~60% of patients at the time of primary diagnosis. As a result, novel universal biomarkers for testicular malignant GCTs are required. Clinically, most informative immunohistochemical markers for TGCTs are genes expressed in primordial germ cells/gonocytes. Given their regulatory role in gene expression during embryonic development, a number of embryonic miRNAs have been explored as disease biomarkers in patients with TGCT. In the future, circulating microRNAs might be useful in diagnosis and prognostication of TGCTs. In summary, research advances have provided clinicians with a panel of molecular markers, which allow specific diagnosis and are very useful for early detection at the precursor stage and for monitoring of patients during the follow-up.

Guest Editor

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