Imaging Biomarkers for Stratified Medicine and Personalised Healthcare

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Message from the Guest Editor

Imaging biomarkers (IBs) are widely used in medicine. IBs are routinely employed by regulatory agencies as surrogate endpoints or monitoring methods, but still only rarely as companion diagnostics.

Prognostic IBs forecast whether patients will do well or badly, irrespective of any treatment they may receive. Personalised medicine, however, relies not on Prognostic but on Predictive (or Prescriptive) biomarkers. The development and validation of Predictive IBs is hard. A predictive IB needs a technically validated assay, plus a biological rationale supported by a robust platform of evidence. But also, it needs clinical trial evidence showing, not only that the IB forecasts which patients will respond well to an investigational treatment, but also that the IB performs better at forecasting the response to the investigational treatment than at forecasting the response to alternative or standard-of-care treatments.

This Special Issue includes reports on a range of IBs with potential in personalised medicine, and describes current work to extend the platform of evidence that will eventually support their clinical use in improving patient outcomes.

Special Issue

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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