

Special Issue

Epstein–Barr Virus-Associated Carcinogenesis

Message from the Guest Editors

Epstein–Barr virus (EBV) is a persistent and widespread human gamma herpesvirus, infecting more than 90% of the adult human population. EBV is associated with several human malignancies including Burkitt's lymphoma, nasopharyngeal carcinoma, Hodgkin's disease, immunoblastic B lymphoma in AIDS patients, post-transplant-associated lymphomas, T-cell lymphomas, and some gastric carcinomas. Most modern theories of carcinogenesis consider the multi-step development of tumors, i.e., the theory that infection with a ubiquitous virus at the right time in the host life represents a step toward carcinogenesis, which seems to be tenable. However, the precise mechanisms of this EBV-mediated carcinogenesis are not yet clear.

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