

Joint Special Issue

Extracellular Vesicles: From Biology to Biomedical Application

Message from the Guest Editor

Extracellular Vesicles (EVs), which include small EVs or exosomes and microvesicles, are a subtype of membrane vesicles released from the endocytic compartment of live cells. EVs play an important role in local and distant cell-to-cell communication. EVs are able to transport functional biological cargoes (nucleic acids, lipids, proteins, etc.). These aspects of drug delivery are essential for the field of gene therapy. Recent studies have shown that EVs may be used to encapsulate and protect exogenous siRNA/miRNAs or endogenous miRNA/mRNA for delivery to target cells. Thus, EV-mediated nanodelivery is very promising and may bridge the gap in current delivery systems for systemic gene therapy.

Guest Editor

Dr. Prakash Gangadaran

Department of Biomedical Science & Nuclear Medicine, School of Medicine, Kyungpook National University, Daegu 41944, Republic of Korea

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