



## Acute Myeloid Leukemia and Myelodysplastic Syndromes: Biological and Clinical Implications

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is a malignancy of the hematopoietic stem cell and is characterized biologically by the uncontrolled division and undifferentiated phenotype of the malignant cells. The main clinical characteristics of this disease are caused by bone marrow infiltration and inhibition of the normal hematopoietic lineages, leading, most frequently, to bone marrow insufficiency. Clinically, most AML subtypes have a similar presentation, it becomes more and more clear that AML is a general term a plethora of diseases. There are still a lot of AML subtypes with poor prognosis and that have no specific therapy.

Myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) is also characterized by bone marrow insufficiency. This is not caused in all cases by the presence of blasts, and rather it is represented by the influence that the bone marrow microenvironment has on the hematopoietic stem cell. MDS represents a heterogeneous entity in which the therapy did not see the “boom” that AML experienced.

The current Special Issue will be focused on the biological and clinical characteristics of AML and MDS, trying to further advance the understanding of these entities.





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