# Special Issue

# Small Molecule Immuno-Oncology Drugs in Cancer Therapy

## Message from the Guest Editor

Immuno-oncology is an emerging option to treat cancer malignancies. Immune checkpoint inhibitors represented by immunocytotoxic T lymphocyte-associated antigens 4 (CTLA-4) and programmed death receptor 1 (PD-1) monoAbs have made breakthroughs in the field of tumor immunotherapy. Additionally, small-molecule tumor immunotherapeutic agents generally exert antitumor effects by regulating the tumor immunosuppressive microenvironment or by targeting innate/adaptive immune pathways. Compared with antibody drugs, small-molecule tumor immunotherapeutic drugs can act not only on extracellular or cell-surface targets, but also through the cell membrane and other biological barriers to act on specific intracellular targets to cause antitumor immune response and have higher permeability to the tumor microenvironment. Furthermore, small-molecule tumor immunotherapeutic agents have superior pharmacokinetic properties to macromolecular antibodies, such as short half-life and good oral bioavailability, and can also balance the risk of possible side effects caused by combination therapies.

## Guest Editor

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## Deadline for manuscript submissions

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