

Special Issue

Nuclear Receptors: Honorary Special Issue Commemorating the Work of Prof. Jan-Åke Gustafsson

Message from the Guest Editor

Recently, we passed 25-year mark since the discovery of the two important nuclear receptors LXR α and ER α . The publication of Prof. Gustafsson's paper (PNAS 92 (6) 2096-2100) where he described the cloning of the nuclear receptor OR-1 (LXR α), was fundamental to understanding cholesterol homeostasis and its regulation, and has resulted in many publications. One year later, another nuclear receptor was cloned (PNAS 93 (12) 5925-5930). This was a second estrogen receptor and was named ER β ; it was a fundamental paradigm shift since all effects until then had been attributed to the only known estrogen receptor which was then renamed to ER α . The cloning of ER β initiated much activity and the evaluation of ER β as a drug target is still ongoing. In addition, Gustafsson has been involved in revealing the 3D structure of nuclear receptors, the binding of nuclear receptors to DNA, and the discovery of the steroid response element.

The Special Issue begins with a review of Prof. Gustafsson's contribution to the field of nuclear receptors followed by research articles and reviews on all aspects of nuclear receptors in health and disease.

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