



Molecules at Play in Cancer

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Even with a wide range of incidence, cancer can occur in any part of the human body and spread to areas other than the originally affected organ. From genes to transcripts, proteins (enzymes included) and metabolites, a long list of molecular factors have been blamed for triggering the transformation of normal cells into cancer cells, many of them also being considered as actionable molecules for targeted therapies. However, combinations of cancer risk factors including race, sex, age, medical history, diet, habits and exposure to stress, toxins and radiation make each human dynamic and unique, questioning the meaning of cancer biomarkers and the feasibility of “fit-for-all” treatments. Tumor heterogeneity further complicates the characterization of cancer subtypes and requires complex approaches to destroy most of the primary cancer clones at once. Contributing papers to this Special Issue will present recent progress in the molecular diagnosis and targeted therapy of any type of cancer, with emphasis on how to better personalize the treatment to fit patient characteristics.

