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Advances in Functional Otogenetics

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Today, genetic analyses are readily available and so powerful that some would even perform otogenetic screenings prior to proper clinical evaluation of hearing thresholds. However, genetic analyses frequently find anomalies or variants that are difficult to classify as pathogenic or not. For the clinical otologist caring for patients with sensorineural hearing loss on a daily basis, it is not possible to keep up with all new findings in the genetics of otology—let alone the new laboratory techniques to screen genes. Even a clinical therapeutic modality, such gene therapy for hereditary hearing loss, is not easy for a mainly clinically occupied otologist to grasp.

Translational studies concerning genetic knowledge implemented in daily practice are welcomed. We also hope to address the following questions: What do genes tell clinicians about how or when to operate or not to operate? Should clinicians anticipate the presence of gene therapy in the near future? All topics that are functional for clinicians and tackle genetics and otology are welcome for this issue on functional otogenetics.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes are central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fastmoving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised.

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