



## Pancreatic Fibrosis in Inflammation and Cancer

Guest Editor:

**Prof. Dr. Antonio Gonzalez**

Instituto de Biomarcadores de  
Patologías Moleculares,  
Departamento de Fisiología,  
Universidad de Extremadura,  
10003 Cáceres, Spain

Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (30 April 2022)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Pancreatic fibrosis is a condition that develops in diseases that affect the pancreas such as pancreatitis and cancer. It can evolve starting from changes in the physiology of cells that normally contribute to the homeostasis of the stroma in the tissue. Cells can be abnormally activated by signals from different origins and then can proliferate and contribute to the deposition of extracellular matrix components. The developed fibrotic tissue can impair the functions of pancreas, both exocrine and endocrine. Over the past few years, and especially at present, researchers are working on the identification of regulators of pancreatic fibrosis. Nowadays, it is accepted that pancreatic stellate cells (PSC) contribute significantly to these pathogenic processes. Moreover, interrelationship with other cell types of the pancreas, including developing cancer cells, is emerging as potential regulator of PSC pathophysiology. Therefore, the understanding of the cellular and molecular basis of cell-to-cell interconnection is of major relevance to the knowledge of pancreatic disease development and the potential discovery of a cure.





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### Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of  
Odontostomatologic and  
Specialized Clinical Sciences,  
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of  
Medicine, Università Politecnica  
delle Marche, Via Ranieri 65,  
60100 Ancona, Italy

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MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
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