



Advances in Pathogenesis and Therapeutics of Hepatobiliary Diseases Volume II

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Message from the Guest Editor

In mammals, the hepatic and biliary system comprises several essential organs, including the liver, bile duct, and gallbladder, for participating in the metabolism of both diets and drugs. In recent decades, the burden of hepatobiliary disease has been heavy, and the overall trend is gradually upwards worldwide. Specifically, around two million patients die annually in the world due to liver cirrhosis, viral hepatitis, and hepatic carcinoma. Nevertheless, a feasible therapeutic strategy is still not available because of the heterogeneity of pathophysiologic mechanisms. Recently, with the rapid improvement of cutting-edge technology, e.g., OMICs, more and more evidence has demonstrated that symbiotic bacteria, as a hidden “organ” in the holobiont, can disrupt the normal function of the hepatic and biliary system. For instance, gut-microbiota-derived PAMPs (pathogen-associated molecular patterns) and bile acid metabolites affect liver cancer progression and metastasis through immune-regulation, such as NKT cells and cytotoxic T cells.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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