



Roles of the Tumor Microenvironment on Liquid Biopsy

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Cancer metastasis is the major cause of patient mortality and remains a daunting problem, both biologically and clinically. Although many advances have been made deciphering cancer in the circulation, mechanistic understandings, and precise underpinnings of crosstalk between circulatory tumor and normal cells, setting the stage for metastasis remains unknown. Historically, the enumeration of EpCAM-positive circulating tumor cells (CTCs) has allowed clinicians to estimate the overall metastatic burden in cancer patients, acting as an independent prognostic indicator of overall/progression-free survival of metastatic patients (“Liquid Biopsy”). However, thorough understanding of CTCs, CTC biomarkers and pathways, and CTC interactions with the tumor microenvironment, either in blood, bone marrow, or at organ sites is necessary for early detection and evaluation of treatment responses.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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