



Myeloid Cells: Multi-Functional Regulators of Immune Suppression and Tumor Progression

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Accumulating evidence suggests that tumour-induced immune cells of myeloid origin differentiate into cells that promote tumour growth and invasion in addition to their immunosuppressive role. Although myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSC) were initially identified in cancer patients and mouse models due to their potent immune-suppressive activity, they are now being implicated in the promotion of tumour metastasis by participating in the formation of pre-metastatic niches, angiogenesis and invasion. MDSCs are heterogeneous populations of immature myeloid cells that include monocytic (mMDSC) and granulocytic (gMDSC) subsets, both of which have been shown to be immune-suppressive. However, molecular, biochemical and functional characterizations of the MDSCs in preclinical and clinical settings remain to be explored. This special issue focus on the work which involves the molecular, biochemical and functional characterization of MDSCs, as well as the studies that explore the development and design of targeted therapeutics against MDSCs.

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