



Left-Right Asymmetry and Cardiac Morphogenesis

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (31 October 2017)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Journal of Cardiovascular Development and Disease (JCDD) launches a Special Issue on left-right asymmetry in cardiac morphogenesis. The mature heart is a highly asymmetric structure, which originates from symmetrically organized paired heart fields at the primitive streak stage. Asymmetry within the heart is generated by different processes, which include determination of left-right atrial identity, looping and asymmetric remodeling. These processes are globally summarised under the term “cardiac laterality”. Correct heart development crucially depends on proper establishment of its laterality and not surprisingly severe congenital cardiac pathologies can be traced back to an impairment of this process.

This issue will cover the state-of-the-art knowledge on the mechanisms establishing cardiac laterality and left-right axis formation and will offer a perspective on its impact on congenital heart disease.

