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Emerging Trends in Pulmonary Fibrosis

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Message from the Guest Editors

Interstitial lung disease (ILD) is characterized by an admixture of fibrosis and inflammation infiltrating the interstitium of the lung in a diffuse fashion. There are many different causes of ILD, the more common and severe of which are characterized mostly by fibrosis. Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) is the most common of the fibrotic ILDs and carries a prognosis that is worse than many forms of cancer. The diagnostic and treatment paradigm of IPF and other fibrotic ILDs continues to evolve. Making an accurate diagnosis of IPF can be challenging and often requires a multidisciplinary approach. The advent of antifibrotic therapy over the past decade has changed the landscape of therapy for IPF and appears to have altered the natural disease course. Recent data suggest that pulmonary hypertension, a common complication, might be a viable target for therapy when it supervenes in IPF and other ILDs. The aim of this Special Issue is to highlight and contextualize some of these recent advances in the field of pulmonary fibrosis.

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