



## Receptor Tyrosine Kinases as Drug Targets: Present Status and Future Directions

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs) comprise about 58 members and share common structural motifs, including an extracellular ligand binding domain, a helix that transverses the cell membrane and an intracellular a regulatory juxtamembrane region, a kinase domain and a C-terminal domain. RTKs modulate diverse cellular processes whose deregulation has been implicated in diseases such as cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, heart disease, developmental disorders and substance abuse. In recent years, growing evidence for the role of collagen-binding RTKs in various disease processes has also been reported. While RTKs are generally viewed in the context of drug inhibition, particularly in cancer, recent studies have identified roles for RTK agonists particularly in the treatment of substance abuse disorders. Lastly, RTK ligands provide powerful chemical tools for analysing cellular signalling pathways. This review aims to provide novel insights on the present status and future directions of RTKs as druggable targets.

You are cordially invited to contribute in these topics or novel ones of your choosing to this timely Special Edition.

Dr. John Patrick Alao

*Guest Editor*





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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