



Purinergic Signaling in Health and Disease

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Message from the Guest Editor

Extracellular adenosine, adenine nucleotides and uracil nucleotides play important roles in the control of the function of cells, organs and organ systems. Adenosine activates four human G-protein-coupled receptors. P2Y receptors are G-protein-coupled receptors for adenine nucleotides and uracil nucleotides. There are eight human subtypes. P2X receptors are ligand-gated receptors for adenine nucleotides with a trimeric protein structure. Seven human P2X subtypes build these trimers. Agonists and antagonists have been developed for use in pharmacotherapy. Adenosine and analogues are used for the diagnosis and therapy of cardiovascular diseases. The P2Y₂ receptor agonist diquafosol is used for the treatment of dry-eye disease. Several P2Y₁₂ receptor antagonists inhibit platelet aggregation in the prevention and therapy of cardiovascular events such as myocardial infarction.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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