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The Synergy of Radiotherapy and Immunotherapy

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (30 April 2023)

Message from the Guest Editors

Studies have demonstrated that immunologic cell death in response to ionizing radiation allows for increased anti-tumor T-cell activation. Additionally, RT has been shown to induce immune-stimulatory and/or immune-suppressive modifications in the tumor microenvironment. However, RT alone is not always adequate to overcome these immunosuppressive mechanisms. Immune checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs) have demonstrated improvements in overall survival for multiple advanced malignancies and are now frequently used in this setting. In 2011, ipilimumab was the first ICI approved by the US Food and Drug Administration. Ipilimumab is a monoclonal antibody to CTLA-4, which serves as a regulator of T-cell activation. Subsequently, agents targeting the PD-1/PD-L1 axis were approved. Due to their properties, ICIs have the potential to reverse the immune exhaustion that occurs following chronic T-cell activation. Thus, RT and ICIs can behave synergistically to enhance anti-tumor immunity. We encourage contributors to submit manuscripts addressing any of the different aspects of radiation therapy and/or immunotherapy.

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Editor-in-Chief

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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