



Cancer Stem Cells in Major Smoking Related Cancers

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Message from the Guest Editors

Therapeutic resistance remains a significant hurdle in treating patients with different types of cancer, including lung cancer, bladder cancer, and head and neck cancer. These three cancer types are closely associated with active and/or passive smoking. The chemicals present in tobacco smoke can cause DNA damage that enhances genetic and epigenetic alterations at the cellular level, eventually leading to the development of neoplastic changes. The risk of other cancer types, such as esophageal cancer, pancreatic cancers, kidney cancer, and cervical cancer, is also known to be increased due to smoking exposure. Numerous environmental exposures (such as smoking) have been reported to be associated with inducing different molecular alterations, initiating and promoting cancer stem cells (CSCs), and ultimately contributing to therapeutic resistance. It is important to note that the relationship between smoking and cancer stem cells is complex and multifactorial, and more research is needed to fully understand the underlying mechanisms. This SI aims to highlight recent advancements in CSC research associated with therapeutic resistance that could improve cancer management and treatment.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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