



Beyond Checkpoints--the HLA System and other New Targets

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear colleagues,

Immuno-oncology is of fast-growing importance in the wake of the Nobel Prizes awarded in the field of checkpoint/checkpoint-inhibitor therapy. However, although these therapy options have proved useful, they represent only a very minor part of immunological control and of possible therapeutic applications.

The dominating cellular identification and communication system in humans is the HLA (Human Leukocyte Antigen) system, which represents class I and class II of the MHC and even, partially, class III. Therefore, this dominant system is worthy of investigation with respect to regulation of implantation/pregnancy and, in particular, to immunoregulation of carcinogenesis.

Certain groups in the HLA system, especially the non-classical group HLA-G (class Ib) with its seven isoforms, are well documented to play an important role in manipulation of the immune system by malignant tumors. However, there are also other aspects; for example, changing expression of the classical HLA groups I and class II, or the role of other non-classical HLA groups such as HLA-E or HLA-F.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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