



Matrix Effectors and Cancer

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Nikos Karamanos

Biochemistry, Biochemical
Analysis and Matrix
Pathobiochemistry Research
Group, Laboratory of
Biochemistry, Department of
Chemistry, University of Patras,
26500 Patras, Greece

Dr. Zoi Piperigkou

Biochemistry, Biochemical
Analysis & Matrix Pathobiology
Research Group, Laboratory of
Biochemistry, Department of
Chemistry, University of Patras,
26110 Patras, Greece

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Extracellular matrices (ECMs) are highly dynamic three-dimensional structural meshworks composed of macromolecules, such as proteoglycans/glycosaminoglycans (PGs/GAGs), collagens, laminins, elastin, glycoproteins and proteinases. Matrix macromolecules are characterized by high structural complexity and heterogeneity. They form complex networks through which they dynamically communicate with cells, thus serving as critical regulators of several homeostatic and pathological processes, such as cancer. ECM molecular composition varies among the tissue of origin and it undergoes significant remodeling during cancer progression. The elucidation of the mechanistic aspects governing matrix assembly and cell–matrix interactions is of critical importance to discover matrix-mediated cancer pathobiology and novel therapeutic approaches. The aim of this Collection of *Cancers* is to highlight the emerging roles of effective matrix macromolecules, including matrix metalloproteinases, proteoglycans, specific types of collagens and matrix (glyco)proteins that play key roles in cancer development and aggressiveness.

Prof. Nikos Karamanos

Dr. Zoi Piperigkou

Collection Editors





cancers



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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Samuel C. Mok

Department of Gynecologic
Oncology and Reproductive
Medicine, The University of Texas
MD Anderson Cancer Center,
Houston, TX 77030, USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Cancers is an international online journal addressing both clinical and basic science issues related to cancer research. The journal is publishing in Open Access format, which will certainly evolve to ensure that the journal takes full advantage of the rapidly changing world of information and knowledge dissemination. It publishes high-quality clinical, translational, and basic science research on cancer prevention, initiation, progression, and treatment, as well as other related topics, particularly to capture the most seminal studies in the rapidly growing area of immunology, immunotherapy, and tumor microenvironment.

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Contact Us

Cancers Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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