



Matrix Glycans as Multifunctional Pathogenesis Factors and Therapeutic Targets in Cancer

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Cancer is a leading cause of mortality within the aging population. Tumor angiogenesis, tumor–stroma interactions, interactions with immune cells and the extracellular matrix and cancer stem cell niches allow for malignant cell survival and promote metastasis, the leading cause for cancer-associated mortality. Proteoglycans (PGs) and glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) – structurally diverse carbohydrates of the extracellular matrix and cell surfaces – have emerged as novel biomarkers and molecular players both within tumor cells and their microenvironment. Furthermore, most constituents of the extracellular matrix are glycosylated, including large structural glycoproteins such as collagens, laminins, and tenascins, with important implications for molecular interactions and functions. Importantly, their expression is dysregulated in numerous tumor entities, and modulates all molecular steps towards cancer metastasis.

This Special Issue of *Cancers*, therefore, encompasses new research articles and timely reviews on all aspects of the role of matrix glycans in human cancer.





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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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