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Epigenetics and Cancer Immunotherapy

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Message from the Guest Editor

Tumor escape from the immune system relies on a variety of mechanisms, often based on a profound reorganization of tumor cell's epigenome, alteration of the TME and tumor-driven rewiring of immune cells chromatin landscape. Immunotherapy has emerged as a therapeutic alternative to conventional drugs and has revolutionized cancer treatment, by boosting the patient's antitumor immune response to effectively destroy the malignant cells and prevent cancer progression and expansion. There is growing evidence that epigenetic regulation has a key role in the modulation of anti-tumor immune responses by reshaping the TME and contributing to control immune recognition and immunogenicity. Tumor driven immune suppression can be overcome with epigenetic based drugs that inhibit the activity of epigenetic modifiers such DNA methyltransferase and histone deacetylases, promoting the expression of tumor-associated antigens, immune checkpoint inhibitors, chemokines, and other immune-related genes. For that reason, the leverage of epigenetic changes controlling tumor-associated immune response to reinforce immunotherapy is a promising path of therapeutic intervention for cancer patients.



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Special Issue



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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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