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Genetic, Epigenetic, and Transcriptional Control of Cancer Stem Cell

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Message from the Guest Editors

Tumor heterogeneity is a key characteristic of cancer. Cancer stem cells are a small population of cancer cells that have infinite proliferative potential and tumor-initiating properties. Cancer stem cells play a critical role in the initiation, recurrence/metastasis and therapeutic resistance of cancer. Therefore, a deeper understanding of cancer stem cell is urgently needed for better prevention and treatment of cancer. Cancer stem cells can be regulated at genomic, epigenomic and transcriptional levels. Mutations of driver genes are key to the formation of cancer stem cells. Epigenetic changes, such as DNA methylation and histone modification, also play important roles in cancer stem cell formation and drug resistance. In addition, transcription factors and their cofactors are critical for the maintenance and specification of cancer stem cells. In the past 20 years, genomics, epigenomics and transcriptomics studies have revolutionized our understanding of cancer stem cell, however, many questions remain largely elusive in both the mechanisms of cancer stem cell regulation and clinical application of targeting cancer stem cell.

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Message from the Editorial Board

Cells has become a solid international scientific journal that is now indexed on SCIE and in other databases. We have successfully introduced a special issues format so that these issues serve as mini-forums in specific areas of cell science. *Cells* encourages researchers to suggest new special issues, serve as special issues editors, and volunteer to be reviewers. Our main focus will remain on cell anatomy and physiology, the structure and function of organelles, cell adhesion and motility, and the regulation of intracellular signaling, growth, differentiation, and aging. We are open to both original research papers and reviews.

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