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Regulation of Apoptosis in Health and Disease

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Message from the Guest Editor

Apoptosis, the prototype of programmed cell death (PCD) eliminates unwanted cells during development. Over the past years, additional forms of PCD have been identified that also play critical roles in normal and pathological physiology. These different cell death pathways, in addition to unique molecular players, engage several signaling components and master regulators of the apoptotic machinery. Apoptosis is regulated by two major pathways: the intrinsic or mitochondrial pathway, which is initiated by alterations in the microenvironmental milieu and controlled by the Bcl-2 family of proteins; and the extrinsic or dead-receptor-mediated pathway, which is activated by plasma membrane death receptors and plays a fundamental role in homeostasis maintenance and immune system function.

The present Special Issue aims to highlight some of the newest advances in the molecular mechanisms of apoptosis, especially those linking the apoptotic machinery with other fundamental processes of the cell, including but not limited to ciliogenesis, asymmetric division, senescence, and apoptotic clearance.

Specialsue



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