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Immunometabolism: A Therapeutic Target in Cancer and Inflammatory Diseases?

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Message from the Guest Editor

Macrophages are very plastic cells that react to external signals by a fast reprogramming at the genetic and metabolic levels, thus, facilitating an adequate answer to a changing environment. We have only started to realize the high relevance of metabolic changes for their immunological functions in physiological but also in pathophysiological conditions, such as in cancer. Interest in the field of immunometabolism, which we define as the interplay between immunological and metabolic processes, is motivated indeed by the realization that dysregulated metabolism in macrophages accompanies and/or promotes their tumour-supportive capacities. Manipulating macrophage metabolism might offer new avenues in cancer therapy. This is particularly interesting when considering tumours such as glioblastoma. These aggressive brain tumours harbour a large number of microglia and macrophages and are characterised by strong metabolic alterations.



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Special Issue



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