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# **Molecular Regulation of Mitosis and Its Role in Disease**

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## **Message from the Guest Editors**

Dear Colleagues,

Mitotic division involves a profound cellular reorganization essential for the precise repartition of the genome between daughter cells. The nuclear envelope is disassembled, the microtubule dynamics dramatically change to form the bipolar spindle and DNA is condensed into chromosomes. A protein complex in the centromeric region of the chromosomes is assembled to form the kinetochores, a structure that will function as a mechanical latch allowing their attachment to the spindle microtubules. The chromosomes are then precisely aligned on the metaphase plate, a mechanism that is under the control of the spindle assembly checkpoint (SAC). This surveillance signalling pathway is activated by unattached chromosomes and prevents the metaphase-to-anaphase transition by inhibiting the anaphase promoting complex (APC), the ubiquitin ligase responsible for securin and cyclin B degradation.

In this special issue of Cells, the mechanisms driving coordinated mitosis and the different signalling networks generating accurate kinetochore-dependent chromosome segregation, SAC activation/inactivation and cytokinesis will be discussed.

Dr. Thierry Lorca Dr. Anna Castro Guest Editors













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