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Redox and Metabolic Profile of Cancer

Guest Editor:

Dr. Bato Korac

1. Institute for Biological Research "Sinisa Stankovic"—National Institute of Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
2. Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

Deadline for manuscript submissions:

31 December 2024

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Life is a unity of opposites, and so is the case with aerobic organisms and their evolutionary expansion. With the presence of oxygen, organisms could maximally produce energy in metabolic processes, but reactive species (oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, etc.) - which are formed as a metabolic "by"-product, can be lethal - not only damaging major macromolecules but also potentially killing the cell. On the other hand, reactive species play a plethora of regulatory roles within cells and tissues. The evolutionarily conserved interplay between redox and cellular metabolism is strongly manifested in cancer growth.

Metabolic reprogramming of the tumor, discovered by Warburg about 100 years ago, is more relevant today than ever before. Nowadays, cancer is considered a metabolic disease, tightly coupled with redox homeostasis and characterized by an extraordinary capacity for redox-metabolic reprogramming.

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Contact Us

Cells Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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