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TGF-Beta Signaling in Chronic Inflammation and Cancer: From Immunosuppression to Tissue Remodeling

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Message from the Guest Editor

Transforming growth factor- β (TGF- β) is a pleiotropic cytokine with key regulatory roles in tissue homeostasis, inflammation and cancer. TGF- β signaling has cytostatic and apoptotic functions that help mammalian tissues to maintain homeostasis by restraining immune cell activation seen in autoimmunity and allergies.

In these globally increasing conditions, the immune system damages its own tissues via specific molecular signaling events. These diseases are treated with immunosuppressive such as anti-cytokine antibodies.

Thereby, TGF- β can induce tissue fibrosis and marked damage via tissue remodeling. In contrast to inflammatory disorders in which TGF- β may suppress inflammation, this cytokine may dampen anti-tumor immune responses in cancer. In fact, tumor cells can overproduce TGF-beta to create a local immunosuppressive environment that promotes tumor growth and metastasis.

In this Special Issue, we wish to analyze the effect of TGF-beta-producing cells in health and disease. This Issue will help to find new avenues to improve current therapies for autoimmunity, allergies and cancer.



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Special Issue



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