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Allogeneic Cell Cancer Immunotherapies

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Allogeneic immuno-cell therapies are beginning to replace autologous chimeric antigen receptor technologies (CAR-T). The major problem is the recognition of allogeneic cells by the recipient immune system that risks donor cell rejection and graft versus host disease. Given the success of CAR-T for B cell blood cancers, considerable effort is underway to enable single CAR-T products to treat large numbers of patients in a cost-effective way. The ability of gene stem cells to insert CARs into safe harbor sites in the genome and to knock out checkpoint inhibitor genes that prevent tumor destruction is being trialed in animal models and in early-stage clinical trials. These studies are targeted at multiple blood and solid cancers, and also at cells infected with pathological viruses such as HIV and COVID-19. Early progress is encouraging, but the outcome of human clinical trials remains essential to evaluate the safety and efficacy of these new allogeneic cell therapy approaches.

Prof. Alan Trounson



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Special Issue



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