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Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells in Basic and Translational Research

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Message from the Guest Editor

The ability to turn an adult skin, blood or other types of somatic cells into a pluripotent stem cell has opened new frontiers in basic biology and medical research. An induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) is created by reprogramming any cell of the human body into the pluripotent developmental stage. The reprogrammed cells are then able to generate virtually an unlimited number of progeny capable of differentiating into organ-specific specialized functional cells. IPSCs offer a unique research platform for modeling gene variants and monogenic causal genes to characterize gene-associated function and dysfunction, for drug screening, for cell therapy and for personalized medicine. This special issue focuses on recent advances in iPSC basic and translational research, specifically cellular differentiation, generation of specific lineages, tissue morphogenesis and 3D culture systems, pathogenesis of diseases, in vitro systems for drug discovery and development of innovative therapeutic interventions.









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