



The Gut Microbiome in Colorectal Cancer

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Shahid Umar

Department of Surgery, Medical Center, Kansas City, KS 66160, USA

Prof. Dr. Mazin Al-Kasspoles

Peritoneal Surface Malignancy Program, Division of Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery, The University of Kansas Health System, Kansas City, MO 66160, USA

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Message from the Guest Editors

Significant advances have been made in associating individual bacterial species to consensus molecular subtypes (CMS) of CRC. It is expected that the development of therapeutics based on the microbial association with CMS will likely facilitate the translation of molecular subtypes into the clinic for CRCs and potentially other malignancies.

The microbiota niche in colorectal cancer can also modify the efficacy and toxicity profile of different oncotherapeutic treatment modalities from chemoradiotherapy to immunotherapy. Conversely, each of these treatment modalities has numerous effects on the gastrointestinal flora, causing changes in the gut microbial community that affect host morbidity and mortality. A closer look at the cross-talks between the commensals, epithelial cells, immune regulators, and so on needs to be established with more substantiated studies. The recurrence of chemoresistant disease following therapy undoubtedly provides the impetus for morbidity and mortality; however, the role of the gut microbiome in drug resistance remains to be fully investigated.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of
Odontostomatologic and
Specialized Clinical Sciences,
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of
Medicine, Università Politecnica
delle Marche, Via Ranieri 65,
60100 Ancona, Italy

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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
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