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Genetics, Epigenetics and Molecular Therapies of Autoimmune Diseases

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Message from the Guest Editor

Autoimmune diseases are chronic, debilitating conditions that affect 5–8% of the population regardless of ethnicity. Approximately 100 diseases have been documented as directed against the human body due to a breach in self-tolerance. Women are disproportionately impacted by these diseases. While some autoimmune diseases are directed against specific organ systems, others like lupus impact various organ systems. All autoimmune diseases are genetically inherited, and the genes that render individuals susceptible to specific disorders remain to be fully elucidated. The manifestation of diverse autoimmune diseases, polyautoimmunity, in individuals is not uncommon. Another complexity is that the genes involved in manifesting autoimmune disorders are often modulated by various epigenetic mechanisms and are poorly understood. Given these complexities, finding a specific treatment for many autoimmune diseases has been difficult. This Special Issue aims to compile novel data on the genetic and epigenetic mechanisms involved in various autoimmune disorders, and the potential molecular therapies to treat these disorders are of significant interest.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes are central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fastmoving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised.

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