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Clinical Molecular Genetics in Hematologic Diseases

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Message from the Guest Editors

Hematologic diseases comprise a wide spectrum of disorders affecting blood and blood-forming organs, including both cancerous and noncancerous diseases. Many noncancerous hematologic diseases are caused by inherited genetic aberrations. For example, Factor Five Leiden thrombophilia, a blood clotting disorder manifesting as deep vein thrombosis in the legs or pulmonary embolism in adults, is caused by a heterozygous or homozygous c.1601G>A (p.Arg534Gln) variant in the F5 gene, which is inherited from an affected parent in an autosomal dominant manner. Hemophilia A, a type of bleeding disorder manifesting mostly as prolonged bleeding time after injuries and spontaneous bleeding, is caused by various mutations of the F8 gene and inherited in an X-linked manner. Many cancerous hematologic diseases, or hematologic malignancies, have been characterized by recurrent genetic alterations presenting in various forms.The precise detection of these genetic aberrations plays a critical role in the establishment of diagnosis and the optimal clinical management of hematologic diseases.

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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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