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Genetics of Inherited Retinal Disease in Europe: Prevalence, New Diagnostic Methodologies, and Advanced Therapies

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Inherited retinal degenerations (IRDs) are a group of phenotypically and genotypically heterogeneous disorders with variable penetrance and severity. IRDs affect about 1 in 2000–4000 individuals globally, and are the leading cause of blindness in Western countries.

There are different phenotypes of IRD, including photoreceptor-predominant diseases such as retinitis pigmentosa and Leber congenital amaurosis, macular dystrophies such as Stargardt and Best disease, and vitreoretinopathies. Due to the multiple genes involved, the myriad possible mutations, and the vast variety of phenotypes, a confirmed molecular diagnosis becomes critical for sound clinical management, prognostic assessment, and more importantly, successful treatment chances.

This Special Issue focuses on studies of the prevalence of IRDs in European populations, innovative diagnostics, as well as current advances in developing new therapies based on gene delivery and cell-replacement strategies.

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Guest Editors

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes is central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fast-moving 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. Why not consider *Genes* for your next genetics paper?

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