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Drosophila: A Genetic Model for Studying Human Diseases

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Message from the Guest Editors

In recent decades, we have achieved great advances in the investigation of the cellular and molecular processes that underlie human disease. Studies conducted in different model organisms including *Drosophila melanogaster* are rapidly improving our basic understanding regarding the cellular and molecular principles of human disease. Specifically, the powerful genetic toolbox, tissue accessibility, short lifecycle, and large progeny have conferred to fruit flies a central role in the investigation of the origins of human disease. These features of *Drosophila* have been instrumental to generate preclinical settings to uncover novel therapeutic approaches. It is well known that *Drosophila* as an experimental model has unique genetic tools that allow the fine-tuning of gene expression and therefore can mimic different complex pathological conditions. In addition, the high conservation of genes involved in human disease makes *Drosophila* an advantageous animal model to study human disease.

This Special Issue aims to illustrate how this insect has helped us to model and even alleviate numerous human pathologies such as cancer, neurological diseases, or metabolic disorders.



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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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