



The Role of Extracellular Matrix in Human Health and Disease

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Message from the Guest Editor

The extracellular matrix (ECM) is not only a three-dimensional scaffold for residing cells, it is also an important part of the dynamic microenvironment and influences many aspects of cell biology and tissue function. Injury-induced fibrosis, the abnormal deregulated production of extracellular matrix interfering with organ function, is only one example of a pathological process that is driven by aberrant GAG biology.

Other examples of processes that are affected by GAG functions are wound repair, degenerative disorders such as osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, neurodegenerative disorders, viral infection, and aging.

Although pathologies associated with GAG function are generally not lethal, they have profound negative consequences on the quality of life and treatment strategies for GAG-based pathologies are only beginning to be explored.

This Special Issue highlights GAG biology in the context of disease and treatment.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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