



## c-Jun N-terminal kinases: New Insights for Old Cell Signaling Pathways

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### Message from the Guest Editors

The JNK signaling pathway is a family of protein kinases that regulates many physiological processes, including inflammatory responses, morphogenesis, cell proliferation, differentiation, survival and death. It is well established that mammals express three JNK proteins (JNK1, JNK2 and JNK3) that are encoded by three separate genes *jnk1* (*Mapk8*), *jnk2* (*Mapk9*) and *jnk3* (*Mapk10*), which are alternatively spliced to create at least 10 variants of 46 and 55 kDa. Depending on distinct stimuli, each JNK is activated by specific MAPKKs, which in turns can be activated by more than one MAPKKK, increasing the complexity and diversity of JNK signaling. Importantly, deregulated activation of JNK signaling pathways are becoming the focus of screening strategies probing for new therapeutic approaches to treat human diseases.

Written by international experts, this special issue may include research articles describing the regulatory mechanisms as well as the contribution of each JNK protein to gene transcription and expression, metabolism, cell cycle regulation, immune responses and tumorigenesis therapeutic perspectives.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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