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# **MAPK-ERK Pathway**

Guest Editor:

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# **Message from the Guest Editor**

Raf/MEK/Extracellular signal-regulated The (ERK/MAPK) pathway is a highly specific three-layered kinase cascade that has pivotal roles in a variety of cellular processes, including cell cycle progression, survival, and differentiation. The kinase cascade of this pathway consists of the Ser/Thr kinases, A-Raf, B-Raf, and C-Raf-1, the highly homologous dual-specificity kinases, MEK1 and MEK2, and the ubiquitously expressed serine/threonine kinase, ERK1 and ERK2 (collectively referred to as ERK1/2). The specificity of pathway signaling is determined at multiple levels, including regulation of the magnitude and duration of pathway activity, spatio-temporal regulation, regulation of the monomeric vs. dimeric status of ERK1/2, as well as its crosstalk with other pathways. This Special Issue covers recent advances in the molecular mechanisms and biological functions of the ERK/MAPK pathway signaling, its regulators and downstream effectors, as well as the relevance of these aspects in human disease and potential therapeutic strategies. We encourage authors to submit original research articles or reviews.













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# **Message from the Editor-in-Chief**

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