



Challenging Stroma in Inflammation and Cancer in the Gastrointestinal System

Guest Editor:

Prof. Dr. Antonio Gonzalez

Institute of Molecular Pathology
Biomarkers, University of
Extremadura, Avenida de las
Ciencias s/n, E-10003 Caceres,
Spain

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Message from the Guest Editor

Fibrosis is a condition that develops in inflammations and cancer. It can be the result of imbalances in the homeostasis of the cells that form the stroma in a certain tissue. The growing fibrotic tissue can impair the functions of the part of the gastrointestinal system that is being affected. In general, the result will depend on the extent of the damage but, usually, might contribute to the development of inflammation or the growth of cancerous cells.

Nowadays it is accepted that the conditions developed within the stroma contribute significantly to the pathogenic process. Moreover, modulation of the interrelationships and/or communication established between different cell types of the stroma is emerging as potential regulator of pathophysiology. Therefore, understanding of cellular and molecular basis of cell-to-cell interconnections is of critical relevance and can be used to find keys to fight disease development and to find a potential cure.





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Prof. Dr. José L. Quiles

Department of Physiology,
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Granada, Spain

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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