



## The Stromal-Epithelial Dialogues in Health and Disease

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Epithelial tissues are the main interfaces between inner body and the external world. Their renewal and integrity are crucial to preserve body from damage generated by harmful substances and exposures. In order to assure their maintenance and multiple roles, epithelia are supported by the stroma that corresponds to the connective tissue whose main functions, in regard to the epithelia and aside from immunity, are mechanical and metabolic. Stroma is composed of cellular compartment and acellular one. In homeostasis, actors of both stromal compartments are active players in the regulation of the renewal, differentiation, integrity, and functions of epithelial tissues. It is established that under pathological conditions, alteration of either the epithelial or the stromal tissue will immediately affect the other.

This Issue focuses on the latest advances in understanding the stromal–epithelial dialogue involved in physiological and/or pathological contexts. We will address how it participates to cell fates, tissue architecture and remodeling, during the different steps of development, under homeostasis or disease status, and the cellular and molecular events involved.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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