



## Cancer Challenges during COVID-19 Pandemic

Guest Editors:

**Dr. Franco M. Buonaguro**

Molecular Biology and Viral  
Oncology Unit, Istituto Nazionale  
Tumori IRCCS Fondazione  
Pascale, 80131 Naples, Italy

**Dr. Attilio AM Bianchi**

Ist Nazl Tumori, IRCCS, Fdn G  
Pascale, I-80131 Naples, Italy

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The COVID-19 pandemic, which presented a greater risk of severe morbidity in older and fragile patients, resulted in higher mortality for people with chronic diseases (particularly cardiovascular disease and diabetes) and cancer, highlighting the weakness of many welfare systems all over the world.

Most responsive cancer institutes have had to redesign their strategies to continue their activities. In particular, new therapeutic protocols and follow-up procedures have been implemented. Patients have had to be carefully evaluated to plan the optimal personalized treatment and to adopt the most appropriate therapeutic strategies, including telemedicine and digital monitoring. Healthcare professionals have had to be monitored for exposure to SARS-CoV-2 using genetic/antigen diagnostic kits and serological tests and, most recently, have been vaccinated with one of the several—not yet fully studied—available vaccines.

Dr. Franco M. Buonaguro

Dr. Attilio AM Bianchi

*Guest Editors*





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## Editor-in-Chief

### Prof. Dr. David Alan Rizzieri

1. Novant Health Cancer  
Institute, Winston-Salem, NC  
27103, USA  
2. Division of Hematologic  
Malignancies and Cellular  
Therapy, Duke University,  
Durham, NC 27710, USA

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*Journal of Personalized Medicine*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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