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Epstein–Barr Virus-Associated Carcinogenesis

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Jae Seung Kang

Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, Institute of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul 03080, Republic of Korea

Prof. Dr. Dae Young Hur

Department of Anatomy and Tumor Immunology, College of Medicine Busan, Inje University, Busan 47392, Korea

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Message from the Guest Editors

Epstein–Barr virus (EBV) is a persistent and widespread human gamma herpesvirus, infecting more than 90% of the adult human population. EBV is associated with several human malignancies including Burkitt's lymphoma, nasopharyngeal carcinoma, Hodgkin's disease, immunoblastic B lymphoma in AIDS patients, post-transplant-associated lymphomas, T-cell lymphomas, and some gastric carcinomas. Most modern theories of carcinogenesis consider the multi-step development of tumors, i.e., the theory that infection with a ubiquitous virus at the right time in the host life represents a step toward carcinogenesis, which seems to be tenable. However, the precise mechanisms of this EBV-mediated carcinogenesis are not yet clear.



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Prof. Dr. Lluís Ribas de Pouplana

Institute for Research in
Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona), The
Barcelona Institute of Science
and Technology, 08028
Barcelona, Spain

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Life Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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