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Evaluation of the Antitumor Mechanism of Armed Antibodies

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Message from the Guest Editors

After this success in obtaining target-specific mAbs easily, the “missile therapy” or the “immunoconjugate” was developed for clinical use in the late 1980s. In the 1990s, antibody engineering technologies that allowed genetic modification of murine antibodies to produce chimeric mouse–human antibodies or humanized antibodies were developed. From the late 2000s, these mAbs were again applied to the immunoconjugate, named the “antibody drug conjugate ”. ADCs are categorized as armed antibodies, which means antibodies have the “weapons”, and antibodies are used for delivery carriers of the weapons, such as anticancer drugs and radioisotopes. As of August 2020, 9 ADCs and one radioimmunotherapy (RIT) drug have been approved by the FDA. Thus, armed antibodies are one of the most exciting areas for cancer therapeutics. In this Special Issue of Pharmaceuticals, original research, mini-review, and review articles regarding armed antibodies are invited. This Special Issue focuses on the therapeutic antibodies in vitro, in vivo, and clinical studies.

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