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HTLV-1: Molecular Insights to Targeted Elimination Strategies

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Message from the Guest Editors

Estimates indicate that more than 10 million individuals live with human T-cell lymphotropic virus type 1 (HTLV-1) worldwide. HTLV-1 is a retrovirus responsible for highly aggressive neoplastic diseases, such as adult T-cell leukemia/Lymphoma (ATLL), and inflammatory diseases as HTLV-1-associated myelopathic/tropical spastic paraparesis (HAM/TSP). Despite the advances in understanding the pathogenesis of HTLV-1, there is still a need to develop more effective therapies. ATLL carriers have a poor prognosis for disease evolution and a low life expectancy. These patients usually receive combined chemotherapy, but the infected cells are resistant to a large part of the cell death-inducing agents. Moreover, asymptomatic people living with HTLV-1 or carriers of HTLV-1-related diseases are treated against some symptoms using corticosteroids. However, some new compounds or drug repositioning and immunotherapy have been described with treatment promising for HTLV-1-related disease. In addition, there is promise to use antiretrovirals as a pre-exposure prophylaxis. The aim of this Special Issue is to compile the new findings in this area.



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Special Issue



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