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Ion Channels as Pharmacological Targets in Cancer

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Message from the Guest Editors

Cancer is a leading cause of death worldwide, accounting for nearly 10 million deaths in 2020. Despite the significant advances in the identification and targeting of new molecular drivers of cancer, some of these targets have eluded drug treatments thus far.

In this scenario, the targeting of ion channels has emerged as a promising novel approach in cancer treatment. Indeed, the altered expression and/or function of these proteins have been associated with tumor aggressiveness and increased proliferation, migration, invasion and metastasis of cancer cells. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated that ion channels are also involved in the control or sensing of the tumor microenvironment, in the development of chemoresistance and in the modulation of intracellular signaling.

This evidence makes ion channels promising targets for fighting cancer through the identification of new pharmacological agents, drug repositioning and feasibly the use of target therapies, including monoclonal antibodies.

The aim of this Special Issue is to publish original papers and reviews dealing with the role of ion channels in cancer progression, therapy and chemoresistance.







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