



Drug Discovery and Evaluation for Treatment of Autoimmune Diseases

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Message from the Guest Editor

Over the past decade, for many autoimmune diseases there have been numerous successes in developing targeted therapies that have led to an improved range of choices for clinical treatment. The success of biological therapies for autoimmune diseases, coupled with rapid advances in basic research, has validated the targeting of many immunology-relevant signaling pathways and uncovered new intracellular molecules as potential new drug targets. However, there are still unmet clinical needs in these diseases. In autoimmune diseases, loss of B-cell or T-cell tolerance is frequently observed, and indeed, the human leukocyte antigen (HLA) locus is commonly associated with an increased risk of disease susceptibility. While a deep understanding of signaling pathways in autoimmune diseases is challenging, basic research is very informative for the development of new therapies. Thus, this Special Issue aims to address the pressing need for the development of new drugs or the repositioning of drugs based on a molecular and clinical understanding of the signaling pathways of autoimmune diseases in combination with high-throughput analysis of integrated datasets.





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