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# Hallmark Properties and Behind-the-Scenes Role of Non-coding RNAs in Gastrointestinal Cancers' Onset, Progression and Metastasis

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Deadline for manuscript submissions: closed (31 December 2023)



mdpi.com/si/119055

### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

GI cancers encompass a heterogeneous group of neoplastic diseases sharing some common risk factors but differing in etiology, prognosis and clinical management across the various tumor types. The main malignant conditions of the GI tract involve, in order, colorectum, stomach, liver, esophagus and pancreas.

Understanding the molecular basis of GI cancers is a crucial point for the development of new diagnostic and therapeutic strategies. Extensive genomic studies revealed recurrent mutations or copy number variations frequently located in ncDNA regions, suggesting their impact on the emerging complexities underlying the development and progression of GI neoplasms. Non-coding genomic regions cover 95% of the whole DNA and are, for the most part, transcribed into functional ncRNAs, including miRNAs, endogenous small interfering RNAs (endo-siRNAs), snoRNAs, circRNA, and lncRNAs, which represent the largest class of non-coding transcripts.

This Special Issue will report the most recent advances in understanding ncRNAs' role in GI neoplasms' tumorigenesis and progression, focusing on their application as tumor markers and therapeutic agents.







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### **Editor-in-Chief**

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### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Cancers* is an international online journal addressing both clinical and basic science issues related to cancer research. The journal is publishing in Open Access format, which will certainly evolve to ensure that the journal takes full advantage of the rapidly changing world of information and knowledge dissemination. It publishes high-quality clinical, translational, and basic science research on cancer prevention, initiation, progression, and treatment, as well as other related topics, particularly to capture the most seminal studies in the rapidly growing area of immunology, immunotherapy, and tumor microenvironment.

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