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Molecular and Signaling Networks in Cancer Development and Progression

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submissions:

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

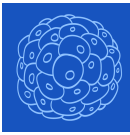
Developmental signaling pathways, signaling transduction pathways, and cell cycle checkpoints are frequently dysregulated in cancer. However, recent evidence suggests that cancer development and malignant progression are also the result of the bidirectional, dynamic, and intricate complex interactions between the cells of the stromal tissue and cancer cells in the tumor microenvironment. Tumor cells recruit and activate nonmalignant cells of stromal tissue, which acquire a protumoral phenotype and, in turn, respond by secreting several factors that produce a unique microenvironment that can modify the neoplastic properties of the tumor cells. In turn, the tumor cells feed signals back to the stroma, thus contributing to the further modification of the tumor microenvironment. Therefore, cancer development and malignant progression are the results of both the intrinsic and extrinsic signaling networks of tumor cells.

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