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Role of Cytokines and Other Soluble Factors in Tumor Development: Rationale for New Therapeutic Strategies

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (15 March 2023)

Message from the Guest Editors

Angiogenesis occurs during both physiologic and pathologic processes, such as embryonic development and tumor progression. Physiological angiogenesis is a complex process that is regulated by a balance of pro-angiogenic and anti-angiogenic cytokines.

Tumor and stromal cells secrete high levels of pro-angiogenic factors, which can create an abnormal vasculature resulting in poorly perfused tumors. The formation of immature endothelial sprouts is promoted by angiogenic factors, including vascular endothelial growth factor and angiopoietins. The first described cytokine contributing to tumor angiogenesis was VEGF-A. Successively, many other cytokines have been described to regulate the process of angiogenesis in tumors.

Further studies to test novel approaches that target the signaling pathways regulated by both angiogenetic activators and inhibitors constitute one of the main strategies for anti-angiogenic therapies, as a single agent or coupled with other molecular approaches.

This Special Issue aims to publish original research or reviews concerning the role of cytokines and other soluble factors in cancer progression, with the aim to propose new pharmacological approaches.

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Message from the Editorial Board

Cells has become a solid international scientific journal that is now indexed on SCIE and in other databases. We have successfully introduced a special issues format so that these issues serve as mini-forums in specific areas of cell science. *Cells* encourages researchers to suggest new special issues, serve as special issues editors, and volunteer to be reviewers. Our main focus will remain on cell anatomy and physiology, the structure and function of organelles, cell adhesion and motility, and the regulation of intracellular signaling, growth, differentiation, and aging. We are open to both original research papers and reviews.

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