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Animal Models of Retinal Degeneration

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Message from the Collection Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The retina is an ideal CNS tissue to study because of its accessibility and the availability of many well-characterized animal models that exhibit ocular pathologies mimicking diseases seen in patients. The first successful gene therapy in the U.S. approved for use in patients was to treat a hereditary retinal degeneration called Leber congenital amaurosis, an early-onset form of the family of diseases collectively called retinitis pigmentosa. That pioneering achievement was based upon years of experimental studies using animal models of human disease. There is still much to be done, and the recent development of new research tools for gene editing and other genome manipulations promises to bring an era of even greater accomplishments in the study and treatment of retinal diseases. With this new thematic collection, we aim to attract the most promising research in the field to drive further advancements that will ultimately lead to curative life-long interventions for the many hundreds of ocular disorders already known, as well as those yet to be discovered.

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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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