



Characterization of Extracellular Vesicles in Disease

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Message from the Guest Editor

Extracellular vesicles (EVs) are entities known to be released from all cell types, which contain signaling components such as proteins and nucleic acids enclosed by a lipid membrane. What was initially believed to be an unspecific secretion product has turned out to be a cell-type specific means of inter-cellular communication. The population of EVs is heterogenous with regard to the mode of biogenesis, size and cargo. Cargo signatures and their dependence on the (patho-)physiological status of the cell of origin as well as the mechanisms of specific detection of the recipient tissue are currently being investigated with the aim of defining EV-biomarkers and better understanding this communication route. In order to make progress in this field, analytical techniques are refined and frequently employ -omics technologies, such as proteomics and next-generation sequencing of RNAs.

This Special Issue invites contributions from this exciting research field with a special emphasis on the molecular characterization of extracellular vesicles depending on the physiological state of the secreting cell type and the recipient tissues.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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