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Matrix Embedded Instructional Cues Direct Development and Tissue Repair

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Message from the Guest Editors

Besides being a mechanical support, the extracellular and pericellular matrix have long been known to act as scaffolds for cell attachment and they also provide regulatory cues that control the cellular proliferation and differentiation of cells within connective tissues. By deciphering this code which controls cellular behaviour it is becoming clearer how these might be incorporated into tissue repair strategies to improve functional recovery of damaged tissues. The aim of this issue is to assemble a collection of papers to further this area of repair biology which has undergone significant advances particularly in the development of bioactive functional cell directive biomatrices that promote repair and regeneration of tissues and recovery of tissue function. Multi-functional tissue proteoglycans with cell regulatory properties participate in many aspects of these repair processes applicable to the promotion of this pathway to functional recovery. Hyaluronan also has significant regulatory properties that promote cell directed repair of tissues.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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