



Oncolytic Viruses: New Cancer Immunotherapy Drugs

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Instead of being a purely lytic agent, oncolytic viruses can act more as immune modulators, alerting the patient's immune system to the presence of malignant neoplasms, and thus are able to turn the infamous immunologically “cold” tumor microenvironment into a “hot” one. This can be achieved by clever design and by combining findings from the fields of oncology, immunology, and virology. Research groups around the world are developing novel, advanced, and modified virus platforms, encoding arrays of heterologous proteins and non-coding RNAs, often in combination with modulated expression systems. Combined with a wide variety of available oncolytic virus platforms, originating from the families of Adenoviruses, Herpesviruses, Poxviruses, Rhabdoviruses, and Paramyxoviruses, to name a few, there is an almost infinite field of research on this family of anti-cancer immunotherapy drugs. It is with great pleasure that we showcase a small selection of these advanced technologies developed in this Special Issue on oncolytic viruses.





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