ANNOUNCEMENT

Microenvironmental and molecular markers as targets in personalised radiotherapy and clinical oncology

SPECIAL ISSUE

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Dear Colleagues,

Personalised medicine represents an exciting opportunity to improve the future of individualised healthcare, holding much promise for disease treatment and prevention. The importance of personalised medicine in the treatment of cancer has been growing rapidly in recent times. Solid tumours are not only a tumour mass of monolithic tumour cells but they also contain supporting stroma, extracellular matrix (ECM), and soluble molecules forming the widely



recognised tumour microenvironment. Recent studies indicate that there is no effective cancer treatment without knowledge of the tumour microenvironment. Thus, the role of the tumour microenvironment in tumour growth and therapy has recently attracted more attention in research and drug development. The properties of the microenvironment triggering tumour resistance are the main cause of treatment failure and tumour relapse as it has been suggested that the microenvironment plays a central role in tumour progression and treatment efficacy.

The comprehensive knowledge of the elements of the tumour microenvironment and characteristic molecular markers will allow for better a selection of treatment methods for the individual patient and will bring therapeutic benefits and will prove cost-effective.

Therefore, in this special issue, we will gather the latest knowledge on the significance of the microenvironment and molecular markers in personalised medicine.



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