



Metabolism and Cancer

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Special Issue Introduction:

Over the last three decades, the global prevalence of type 2 diabetes (T2D) and obesity - that often cluster with arterial hypertension and dyslipidemia which, collectively, are often alluded to as the "metabolic syndrome" (MetS) - have increased two- and sixfold, respectively. Globally, this upward spiraling epidemic is projected to exact a major toll in terms of lives lost and financial burden for years to come.

Tissue damage associated with the above metabolic disease drivers was initially thought to result solely from the degenerative changes in the vasculature and the abnormal fatty changes occurring in the liver (often alluded to as "nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, i.e. NAFLD or MAFLD, i.e. metabolic-associated fatty liver disease they cause) and other viscera, eventually resulting in progressively irreversible organ loss of function in a proportion of cases.

However, more recently, MetS and its individual features together with their closely and bi-directionally associated fatty liver syndromes (NAFLD/MAFLD), have also been shown to associate with incidence and aggressivity of multiple cancer types.

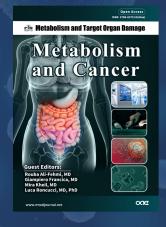
This novel epidemiological and pathogenic paradigm highlights the crucial role that altered cell metabolic homeostasis may have in cancer development and progression. This intriguing area of research places itself them at the crossroad of multiple medical specialties spanning from epidemiology and molecular biology to internal medicine, oncology, metabolism, endocrinology, and imaging techniques. With this backset, Metabolism and Target Organ Damage has now established to launch a special issue focusing on the role of obesity, T2D and additional features of the MetS in cancer. Our interest is principally devoted, but not limited, to colo-rectum, liver, uterus and ovary.

Collectively, these specific cancer types had an incidence of 26% and a mortality of 24% on a world-wide basis in 2020. These impressive epidemiological data fully support the focus on this issue being placed on delving deeper into the complex and multifactorial nature of these malignancies, specifically shedding light in the role that metabolic disturbances play in it.

As the Guest Editors of this Special Issue, we are confident that the papers we present, contributed by experts from all over the world, will provide invaluable insights and point out future lines of investigation into this multidisciplinary topic.

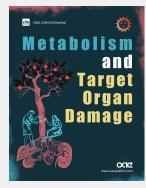
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Journal Introduction:

Metabolism and Target Organ Damage (M&TOD, https://mtodjournal.net/, ISSN: 2769-6375) is a journal newly launched in 2021 with fast development in the past few months. It is an international, peer-reviewed, open access interdisciplinary journal which provides an online platform for the publication of clinical, basic, and translational studies. It covers (cardio)-metabolic disorders per se, such as obesity, diabetes, dyslipidemias, arterial hypertension and hyperuricemia in all age groups.



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