BioMed Research International

Special Issue on

Molecular Basis of Skeletal Development and Homeostasis

CALL FOR PAPERS

The skeleton of mammals provides mechanical support, serves as the niches for haematopoietic stem cells, and functions as an endocrine center to regulate other organs in the body. The mammalian skeleton is formed via endochondral and intramembranous ossification during embryonic development. Following bone formation, bone is maintained through the opposing activities of the bone-forming osteoblasts and the bone-resorbing osteoclasts during postnatal life. The above processes require tightly regulated molecular events to synchronize the activities of osteoblasts and osteoclasts to ensure that bone formation and resorption occur sequentially and maintain normal bone mass. Deregulation of these molecules can lead to skeletal diseases, such as osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, and low back pain. Therefore, fully understanding the molecular mechanisms underlying skeletal development and homeostasis may open up new avenues of treatments for skeletal diseases.

We invite investigators to submit original research and review articles that will contribute to dissecting the molecular mechanisms of skeletal development and homeostasis, understanding the pathophysiology of skeletal diseases, and developing novel strategies for diagnosing and treating skeletal diseases.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Chondrocyte differentiation and maturation
- Osteoblast differentiation
- Congenital skeletal diseases
- Osteoarthritis
- Osteoporosis
- Intervertebral disk degeneration
- Skeletal stem cells
- Skeletal regenerative medicine and tissue engineering

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/bmri/developmental.biology/mbs/.

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