

Special Issue on
Management of Infectious Complications and Current Challenges after Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation

CALL FOR PAPERS

The field of hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) is witnessing a period of exciting improvements and great expectations, mainly driven by major advances in donor availability, supportive care, and cell therapy. Today a stem cell donor is virtually available for every patient in need of transplant; indeed the successful search of an alternative donor is now the rule when a HLA- identical one is lacking. In particular, the haploidentical HSCT is constantly increasing worldwide with very promising outcomes and relative ease of applicability and reproducibility, extendable to all ethnicities, including minorities or mixed populations, for which the research for a HLA compatible donor is often unfruitful. Similarly, cord blood represents a valuable stem cell source for those patients lacking a conventional donor, with satisfactory results in both adult and pediatric populations.

Despite the improvements in supportive care, allowing better diagnostic and therapeutic acts and leading to a significant reduction of transplant-related mortality in recent years, important challenges remain and deserve to be addressed, such as the management of infectious complications whose morbidity and mortality still represent a major cause of failure after HSCT. Recent advances about new antimicrobial agents, better diagnostic tools, or the increasing awareness about the role of microbiota, as an example, are currently changing the landscape of HSCT.

We dedicate a Special Issue of the Journal to the “Management of Infectious Complications and Current Challenges after Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation” with the purpose of publishing high-quality research papers as well as review articles addressing recent advances in this field. Original, high-quality contributions that are not yet published or that are not currently under review by other journals or peer-reviewed conferences are sought.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Incidence and description of infectious complications after haploidentical HSCT
- ▶ Management of life-threatening infections after HSCT
- ▶ Impact of serological status of the patient and the donor against main infections on the final patient outcome after HSCT
- ▶ Prophylactic and/or preemptive strategies for the control of infectious agents in HSCT
- ▶ Results in pediatric populations
- ▶ Results in patients with nonmalignant diseases
- ▶ Reports on rare infections or rare clinical manifestations of well-known pathogens
- ▶ The role of microbiota of patients receiving HSCT
- ▶ Microbiota and correlation with clinical outcome
- ▶ New diagnostic tools for the management of infectious complications after HSCT
- ▶ Results and/or clinical trials using cell therapies against pathogens after HSCT
- ▶ Role of infectious agent genotyping in the management of infections after HSCT
- ▶ Main challenges in the management of infections and potential solutions in the next future
- ▶ Comparisons of infectious complications among HSCTs from the different alternative donors

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