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Disease Markers

Special Issue on

**Progress in Biomarker Research in Urologic
Oncology**

CALL FOR PAPERS

More than 10 years ago, Duggan et al. summarized findings of molecular markers in bladder cancer (Curr Opin Urol, 2004). With humor but also to balance the enthusiasm with realism and pragmatism, the authors critically asked “Do the poster boys need new posters?” Despite intensive biomarker research in urologic oncology, remarkably few have been implemented into daily clinical practice and we might have to ask the same question again: Was the research of the last years in vain? We believe, not at all. New biomarkers were discovered and investigated, high throughput techniques became available, methods of measurement are more accurate, less tissue is needed for a given analysis, and cohorts got larger. As a consequence, the requirements for a biomarker studies changed dramatically. Independent cohorts for validation, central pathologic reviews before assessment of the biomarker, and different techniques of measurement are often asked by reviewers.

We invite investigators to contribute original biomarker research studies in urologic oncology that will underline the progresses in this field. We appreciate when limitations that have to be made nowadays but maybe not previously are highlighted to situate the given study in this issue. And we would like to encourage the utilization of the IBCN phases classification (Goebell, PJ et al., World Journal of Urology 2008), created to not only help investigators understand what is the status of his current project but also identify the next steps needed to push biomarker research forward into the clinical practice.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Biomarkers for different aspects such as diagnosis, prognosis, and prediction
- ▶ The use of biomarkers to avoid unnecessary overtreatment
- ▶ Biomarkers in discovery and validation cohorts
- ▶ Biomarkers assessed with the latest as well as former technologies or different techniques
- ▶ Unsuccessful independent validation of previously published significant biomarkers

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/dm/bruo/>.

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