

Special Issue on Serrated Lesions of the Colorectum

CALL FOR PAPERS

Colorectal cancer is a heterogeneous disease, developing from different types of precursors and through several molecular patterns. Even though the role of adenomatous polyps as cancer precursors—as well as the adenoma-carcinoma sequence—is widely understood, more recent studies have emphasised that around 10 to 30% of colorectal cancers develop through alternative patterns. These latter cancers show a high level of microsatellite instability and, from a clinical, histological, and molecular perspective, may arise from the so-called serrated lesions. Traditionally, serrated lesions of the colorectum were referred to as hyperplastic polyps and were thought not to have any malignant potential. However, it has since been demonstrated that some types of serrated lesions might show a neoplastic progression, referred to as serrated adenomas. These are very likely involved in interval cancer, often diagnosed relatively early after a complete colonoscopy. These data support the hypothesis that around 10–30% of colorectal cancers arise from nonadenoma precursors, with a different genetic pattern, microsatellite instability, involving BRAF mutations and CpG islands hypermethylation. Serrated lesions represent a diagnostic challenge because they are often subtle, flat lesions, with indistinct margins and covered by adherent mucous.

The aim of this special issue is to provide gastroenterologists and surgeons with an overview of the current understanding, as well as recent advances in the management of serrated lesions of the colorectum. These lesions often represent a clinical, histologic, and endoscopic challenge, yet no clear guidelines or recommendations exist to date. We invite researchers and clinicians to contribute original research articles and reviews as well as clinical studies on the classification and genetic pathway of serrated lesions and novel diagnostic tools, as well as therapeutic and surveillance implications.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Epidemiology and classification
- ▶ Serrated lesions of the colorectum: the pathologist's point of view
- ▶ Biology and molecular pathways of serrated lesions
- ▶ Diagnosis: the role of endoscopy and novel technologies
- ▶ Current management: treatment and surveillance strategies
- ▶ Future perspectives

Authors can submit their manuscripts through the Manuscript Tracking System at <https://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/grp/slcr/>.

Papers are published upon acceptance, regardless of the Special Issue publication date.

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