

Special Issue on  
**Mechanisms of Intestinal Fibrosis**

# CALL FOR PAPERS

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) represents a group of intestinal disorders that cause prolonged inflammation of the digestive tract. The two most common IBD diseases are ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. Despite the originating cause, severe mucosal damage and persistent inflammatory response are common features of all IBDs and inevitably lead to an excessive wound healing response, also termed as fibrosis. The pathophysiology of the development of intestinal fibrosis has been largely unexplored. Prevention, treatment, and management of IBD have been suffering from lack of comprehensive understanding of the different cellular components and molecular mechanisms involved in the development of the fibrogenic response.

The purpose of this special issue dedicated to intestinal fibrosis is to highlight the mechanisms involved in the initiation and progression of the fibrogenic response, from the initial acute response to an injury to the late chronic phase due to the persistence of the damaging insult. In particular submission of articles focused on characterizing the role of the tissue microenvironment in the development of intestinal fibrosis is especially encouraged. We are highly interested in the interaction between the different cellular components involved in the injury response (i.e., fibroblasts, immune cells), the plasticity of the injured epithelial and endothelial cells, the intercellular communication by extracellular vesicles, and the possible involvement of the host microbiota. Review articles describing the current state of the art are also highly welcomed.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Mechanisms of fibroblasts activation
- ▶ Epithelial and endothelial injury and plasticity
- ▶ Inflammation and immune response
- ▶ Intercellular communication: role of extracellular vesicles (i.e., exosomes)
- ▶ Effects of the host microbiome on the fibrotic process
- ▶ Mechanisms responsible for progression from inflammatory disease to intestinal cancer
- ▶ Models to study intestinal fibrosis establishment, progression, and remodeling

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

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

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**Publication Date**

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