

## Special Issue on **Advanced Studies in Ulcerative Colitis and Colitis Associated Cancer**

# CALL FOR PAPERS

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) that is composed of ulcerative colitis (UC) and Crohn's disease (CD) is characterized by chronic unregulated inflammation of the intestinal mucosa of the gastrointestinal tract. Among these, UC is emerging as an important public health problem. In recent times, the epidemiological studies showed that there is a significant increase in the incidence of UC in most regions of the world. The pathogenesis of UC is more complex and may involve genetic, environmental, and immunological factors. It is suggested that a breakdown at the epithelial barrier followed by inappropriate responses to microbial products and chronic inflammation in genetically susceptible hosts may play a key role in this disease. At present, a common therapeutic modality for IBD is use of anti-inflammatory agents, including sulfasalazine and acetylsalicylic acid, steroid hormone, and other immunosuppressive agents. Most of these treatments are symptomatic and palliative because the etiology of the disease is not yet established. As a result of no proper drug available to treat UC, patients with UC are at a high risk of developing colitis associated cancer (CAC). CAC is characterized by production of proinflammatory cytokines that can induce mutations. It is well known that proinflammatory cytokines can increase oxidative stress in premalignant cells, and reactive oxygen species and reactive nitrogen species can cause DNA damage and epigenetic changes that silence tumor suppressors and promote tumor initiation. Hence, it is necessary to understand the genetic and molecular mechanisms involved in the pathogenesis of UC and CAC that lead to the path of new drug discoveries.

We invite researchers to contribute to this special issue with high quality original papers as well as review articles, focusing on development and validation of biomarkers, molecular mechanisms involved, and treatment strategies.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Molecular mechanisms involved in UC and CAC
- ▶ The diagnostic markers for UC and CAC
- ▶ The role of miRNAs as therapeutic targets in UC and CAC
- ▶ Molecular and genetic models for predicting response to therapies
- ▶ Translational and clinical trials investigating potential new treatment choices
- ▶ Dietary interventions in prevention and treatment of UC and CAC
- ▶ Current status and future in UC and colitis associated cancer
- ▶ The microbiome and its relation to colitis associated cancer

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

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Friday, 24 February 2017

### **First Round of Reviews**

Friday, 19 May 2017

### **Publication Date**

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