

Special Issue on  
**Noncoding RNA: The Potential Biomarker in Precision  
Medicine**

# CALL FOR PAPERS

Precision medicine is an emerging concept for disease prevention and treatment that takes into account individual variability in environment, lifestyle, and genes for each person. Arriving at the era of precision medicine, there is a rapid reduction in the cost of high-throughput genomic sequencing and a dramatic increase in the demand for identification of potential molecular targets for therapy. Biomarker tests for molecularly targeted therapies can help physicians to select the most effective strategy for a patient's condition and avoid trade-off between the risk of recurrence and the toxic effects of treatment. In some specific types of cancer, overall survival is also likely to be longer with precision medicine than with standard therapies. However, it does not mean that we can be so certain of molecular mechanisms; different group even has contradictory answers for the relation of genetic mutations and diseases.

If precision medicine is to reach its potential, biomarker tests will have to be developed in a timely fashion. Beyond the genetic level, mutations or imbalances in the noncoding RNA repertoire within the body can cause a variety of diseases. For instance, the deregulation of some specific long noncoding RNAs and microRNAs has been found to be the good marker for several tumor types and other disease states, such as heart diseases, psoriasis, and Alzheimer's disease. Having a better understanding of functional roles of noncoding RNA has tremendous potential to advance our understanding of cell regulatory and disease mechanisms. This issue accepts high quality articles containing original research results and review articles, and it will let the readers of this journal know more about the potential role of noncoding RNA in precision medicine.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Advances in noncoding RNA
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in cancer
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in aging
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in noninvasive prenatal testing (NIPT)
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in hematology
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in gastroenterology and hepatology
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in infectious disease
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in cardiovascular disease
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in ophthalmology
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in pulmonary disease
- ▶ Noncoding RNA in urogenital disease

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

**Lead Guest Editor**

Shu Zhang, Second Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University, Xi'an, China  
*drzhangshu@163.com*

**Guest Editors**

Xi Zhang, Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Chicago, USA  
*xizhang@luriechildrens.org*

Zhen Lu, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre, Houston, USA  
*zlu@mdanderson.org*

Fuling Zhou, Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University, Wuhan, China  
*zhoufuling@whu.edu.cn*

**Manuscript Due**

Friday, 29 September 2017

**First Round of Reviews**

Friday, 22 December 2017

**Publication Date**

Friday, 16 February 2018