

Special Issue on **Neurobiology and Mechanism-Based Therapies of Cancer Pain: Recent Insights and Future Directions**

CALL FOR PAPERS

The global burden of cancer pain remains enormous. About 70-90% of patients develop pain during the course of the disease and this incidence is rising, leading to a significant reduction in quality of life. To date, opiates remain the gold standard for cancer pain treatment; however, they are associated with several side effects including intolerance as well as addictive potency. Therefore, there is a dire need for a better understanding of the mechanisms underlying cancer pain and to support the development of mechanism-based therapies.

Cancer pain is a complex syndrome that involves inflammatory, neuropathic, ischemic, and cancer-specific mechanisms. Cancer and its microenvironment constantly evolve, leading to dynamic changes to the peripheral afferent neurons as well as alterations in neuronal responses at the spinal cord and supraspinal level. The aim of this special issue is to provide novel insights into cancer pain research and to report current progress and future direction for developing mechanism-based therapies. We encourage both basic scientists and clinicians to present their findings and perspectives on the topics listed below.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ The use of cannabinoids and NSAIDs in managing the pain in cancer and its microenvironment
- ▶ The effect of sexual dimorphism in cancer pain management
- ▶ Preclinical or clinical studies on emerging drug targets for cancer pain treatment such as repurposing anti-cancer therapies and new opioid analgesics
- ▶ Preclinical or clinical studies on emerging non-pharmacological strategies for cancer pain management such as acupuncture and neuromodulation therapies (e.g., nerve blocks and electrical stimulations)
- ▶ Surgical approaches to cancer pain management
- ▶ Palliative care for cancer pain patients
- ▶ Future directions toward a better understanding of mechanisms and developing novel therapeutics for cancer pain management:
 - ▶ Microbiome and cancer pain
 - ▶ Novel preclinical models for cancer pain research
 - ▶ Interactions between the immune cells and neurons in cancer pain
 - ▶ Targeting glia for managing cancer pain

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

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

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