Special Issue

Estrogen for the Treatment and Prevention of Breast Cancer

Message from the Guest Editor

Estrogen exerts a significant influence on the development of breast cancer, primarily by binding to cellular estrogen receptors (ERs). Breast cancer can be categorized into two subtypes on the basis of the presence of ERs: ER-positive and ER-negative. In hormone receptor-positive (HR+) breast cancer, ERs serve as the principal transcription factors driving oncogenesis and play dual roles as both predictor and target of antiestrogen therapy response. In the case of ER□-negative breast cancer, a combination of chemotherapy and molecular-targeted drugs is commonly employed, with potential effectiveness anticipated through immune checkpoint inhibitors. Additionally, hormone therapies may prove efficacious in instances where other hormone receptors such as androgen and glucocorticoid receptors are expressed in ER□-negative breast cancer. The involvement of germline BRCA1/2 mutations in both ER-negative and ER-positive breast cancer pathogenesis is well established; however, numerous unknown factors persist regarding the pathological characteristics, genetic background, and immunological features associated with ER□-negative breast cancer.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Virgil Craig Jordan

Department of Breast Medical Oncology, MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas, 1515 Holcombe Blvd., Unit 1354, Houston, TX 77030, USA

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Felipe Fregni
1. Neuromodulation Center and Center for Clinical Research Learning, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02114, USA
2. Department of Epidemiology, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, MA 02115, USA

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