Special Issue

Genetics of Hearing Impairment

Message from the Guest Editors

The inner ear is a complex machinery at the cellular and molecular levels. Many different genes and proteins play roles in the development and maintenance of its structure and function through participating in diverse molecular networks. Consequently, hearing impairment encompasses a wide variety of disorders that are clinically and genetically heterogeneous. Understanding their genetic causes and their pathophysiological mechanisms, and characterizing the resulting phenotypes, are essential for developing novel therapies that target the specific defects. Application of the most recent omics technologies and genome editing methods is boosting the research in this field. This Special Issue in Genes entitled “Genetics of Hearing Impairment” will address the genes and mutations involved in hearing impairment, the mechanisms through which mutations result in the different syndromic or non-syndromic disorders, the description of the associated phenotypes in humans and in animal models, and the development of specific gene therapies.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes are central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fastmoving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised.
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Editor-in-Chief

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