THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF MELANOMA TREATMENT

Aims & Scope:

During the last couple of years we have witnessed an unprecedented change in the way we approach, understand and the treat malignant melanomas. Groundbreaking discoveries have been made in cutaneous, mucosal and uveal melanoma. After many years of continuous frustrations, two new and mechanistically different therapeutic methodologies – targeted agents and immune-therapy – have now evolved as the cornerstone treatment for this aggressive disease. However, new challenges soon developed. Treatment resistance, adverse effects, usefulness of combination therapies, rational treatment sequence, design of new clinical trial and its application in the adjuvance setting are just some examples of these new questions that will soon have to be answered. The special issues “The Changing Landscape of Melanoma Treatment” in Clinical Cancer Drugs will include a set of expert opinions, critical reviews and case reports articles aimed to provide the reader with a comprehensive knowledge of these topics. This full thematic series will include manuscripts that will cover from the newest development in the pre-clinical research to the latest clinical trials, focusing also on the clinical vision on how the currently available agents are used in the daily practice as well as a compilation of new agents which are in early clinical development phases but may soon become available. We hope this series of publications will help facilitate multi-disciplinary communication and collaboration among scientists and clinicians who are focused on melanoma around the world.

Key words:
Cutaneous melanoma; uveal melanoma; mucosal melanoma; immune-therapy; CTL-4; anti PD-1; ipilimumab; nivolumab; lambrolizumab; B-RAF inhibitors; MEK inhibitors; vemurafenib; dabrafenib; trametinib; C-kit inhibitors; sunitinib; imatinib; immunoembolization.
Subtopics:
1. Introduction – Overall Vision of Melanomas in 2014
2. Molecular Fundamentals for Targeted Therapy in Cutaneous Melanoma, Tumor Resistance and New Approaches
4. Epidemiology Clinical Presentation and Treatment of Mucosal Melanoma
5. Epidemiology Clinical Presentation and Treatment of Uveal Melanoma
6. Recent Clinical Advances in the Treatment of Cutaneous Melanoma
7. Future Directions.

Schedule:
Manuscript submission deadline: October 1, 2014
Peer Review Due: November 1, 2014
Revision Due: November 14, 2014
Notification of acceptance by the Guest Editor: December 1, 2014
Final manuscripts due: December 15, 2014