Role of p53 in Regulating Radiation Responses

Message from the Guest Editors

Recent discoveries are rapidly updating our knowledge on the role of p53. Control and induction of apoptosis, cell cycle arrest, and senescence have been widely described as main functions of p53, which are directly linked to tumor suppression. Nevertheless, it was found that these three functions and tumor suppression could be independent. This finding suggests there is hope that medical interventions using technologies impacting these functions will not induce or aggravate carcinogenesis, which has been a concern as a side effect of regulating p53. It was also demonstrated that involvement of p53 in radio-induced cell death differs depending on the organ or tissue. These findings have also led to pharmacological attempts to positively or negatively regulate p53 functions to modify cell radiosensitivity to preserve healthy tissues or to improve radiotherapy.
Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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