Live webinar

Metabolic Networks in the Tumor Microenvironment

Coinciding with the 2018 LabRoots Cancer Research & Oncology Virtual Conference

Event Details

Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2018

Location: Your Desktop

Time: 1:30 p.m. EDT (New York)
10:30 a.m. PDT (San Francisco)
7:30 p.m. CET (Berlin)

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Metabolic Networks in the Tumor Microenvironment

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Pancreatic tumors are dynamic pseudo-organs that contain numerous cell types interacting to create unique physiology. A typical pancreatic tumor is made up largely of stromal fibroblasts and immune cell populations, rather than cancer cells. These non-malignant cells act collaboratively to create a dense fibrotic matrix that blocks cancer cells from accessing nutrients and oxygen by inhibiting vascularization. The cancer cells are thus in a state of near-starvation and must employ unorthodox methods to obtain nutrients to support their bioenergetic and biosynthetic needs. Our group has provided foundational work describing the cell autonomous reprogramming of metabolic processes in the cancer cells to facilitate survival and growth under these challenging circumstances. Beyond cell intrinsic metabolic alterations, pancreatic cancer cells also work cooperatively with the non-cancer cells in the tumor microenvironment through the exchange of growth factors, signaling molecules and metabolites. In this seminar, I will describe new work illuminating pathways of metabolic crosstalk among pancreatic cancer-associated fibroblasts, tumor associated macrophages, and malignant pancreatic cancer cells in maintenance of tumor growth, survival and therapeutic resistance.

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