

Special Issue on Nevogenesis

Call for Papers

The theories of how nevi develop including hypotheses regarding mechanisms of inception, growth, and ultimate senescence have received surprisingly little attention since Paul Gerson Unna originally proposed the “Abtropfung” theory of nevogenesis over 100 years ago. For almost a century this theory of nevogenesis was accepted as truth and remained uncontested. Over the past few decades some researchers, based on newly acquired observations from histopathology and embryogenesis, have questioned the validity of the “abtropfung” theory in favor of the “hochsteigerung” theory. In essence the “hochsteigerung” theory is the reverse of the “abtropfung” theory with the former stating that nevus cells migrate from the dermis to the epidermis and the latter stating that nevus cells migrate from the epidermis to the dermis. However, new insights gained from the epidemiology of nevi, cross-sectional, and longitudinal study of nevi, dermoscopy and confocal microscopy investigation of nevi as well as the cellular and molecular study of nevi bring into question the aforementioned theories. The focus of this issue is to help elucidate what is currently known about nevogenesis. Since nevi are associated with an increased risk of melanoma, understanding nevogenesis may help to unravel some of the mysteries of melanomagenesis. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Different nevus variants and new proposal for classification
- Epidemiologic study of nevogenesis: the interaction between environment and genes
- Nevogenesis: changing theories
- The dual pathway of nevogenesis
- The growth and evolution of nevi
- New nevi: difference between children and adults
- Confocal improving of our understanding of nevogenesis
- Nevus involution
- Nevogenesis on the molecular/genetic level
- Senescence: mechanisms of senescence and mechanisms for breaking senescence
- Nevogenesis: a benign metastatic process

- Proof and lack of proof of the malignant transformation of nevi into melanoma

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