

Over the last decades cell biology and biological chemistry have increasingly turned their attention to the space between cells and revealed an elaborate network of macromolecules essential for structural support, cell migration, adhesion and signaling. Upon interactions in the extracellular space, these macromolecules affect the extracellular matrix (ECM) dynamics and via cell receptors communicate with cellular compartment. This comprehensive handbook of the extracellular matrix is organized into seven thematic sections, giving an overview of the current state of knowledge of matrix components (structure and function), their roles in health and disease (matrix pathobiology) as well as new concepts of pharmacological targeting.

Extracellular Matrix: Pathobiology and Signaling provides an introduction to the importance, organization and assembly of the extracellular matrix and detailed timely chapters on the thematic sections:

- ▶ *Glycobiology* (ed. by P. Heldin)
- ▶ *Matrix Proteoglycans* (ed. by L. Schaefer)
- ▶ *Matrix Proteases* (ed. by J.-O. Winberg)
- ▶ *ECM cell surface receptors* (ed. by D. Gullberg)
- ▶ *Collagens* (ed. by R. Tenni)
- ▶ *Emerging Aspects in ECM Pathobiology* (ed. by A. D. Theocharis)
- ▶ *Pharmacological Targeting* (ed. by N. K. Karamanos)

"The book *Extracellular Matrix: Pathobiology and Signaling* provides a comprehensive and up to date collection of very relevant topics for understanding the various facets of extracellular matrix and its interactions with cells in normal tissue as well as in disease. It represents the current front-line and will serve as a reference for extracellular matrix and posttranslational modifications."

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ISBN 978-3-11-025876-9