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Periostin

 Springer

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Preface

In the middle of 2018, the number of periostin-related publications in PubMed was greater than 1000. This number had been increasing every year by the real significance emerged during the past decade. The majority of publications correspond to incurable diseases related to the heart, cancer, bone, and immune systems. Thus, detailed knowledge of periostin would provide opportunities to cure these diseases. Of these diseases, understanding the contribution of periostin on fibrosis is particularly important, since there are not any effective cures. The entire periostin mechanism is an area of ongoing investigation. However, by reviewing our current understanding of periostin within this specialized book, we can hopefully find the clinical solutions to incurable diseases. Finally, as a future perspective, the development of periostin science provides the next three points of view: (1) to provide a new diagnostic marker for unsolved diseases, (2) to provide a new method for curing fibrosis, and (3) to develop a new scientific field by acquiring knowledge of stemness.

Preparation of this book was not possible without the support of the contributing authors who have included the entire area of periostin research with the latest information. The staff at Springer Nature publishing, especially Mr. Selvakumar Rajendran and Dr. Sue Lee, demonstrated great patience with our efforts. This book is the first on periostin and is published in the book series *Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology*.

Tokyo, Japan

Akira Kudo

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