Inside-Out: A story of intracellular stress and organismal homeostasis

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Abstract: In response to specific triggers, cancer cells die in a way that promotes a therapeutically-relevant tumor-specific immune response. Such an “immunogenic cell death” relies on the activation of adaptive stress responses in dying cancer cells, which are required for the emission of immunostimulatory danger signals and consequent antitumor immunity. Many anticancer agents currently employed in the clinic are unable to initiate this process, calling for the development of combinatorial regimens to boost the immunogenicity of cancer cell death in patients. Adaptive stress responses in cancer cells constitute therefore promising target to improve the immunological control of cancer in clinical scenarios.