

Introduction

1. The stromal microenvironment is a complex network of cells and extracellular matrix (ECM) components that surrounds and supports the tumor. It plays a crucial role in tumor progression, metastasis, and response to therapy. The stromal microenvironment is composed of various cell types, including fibroblasts, immune cells, and endothelial cells, all of which interact with each other and the tumor cells.

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Fibroblast-mediated enhancement of ovarian cancer aggressiveness

As a result of the interaction between fibroblasts and cancer cells, the stromal microenvironment becomes a highly organized and functional unit that promotes tumor growth and progression. Fibroblasts, in particular, are known to play a central role in tumor progression and metastasis. They secrete various growth factors and cytokines that stimulate cancer cell proliferation and survival. Additionally, fibroblasts are involved in the remodeling of the ECM, which is essential for tumor invasion and metastasis. The interaction between fibroblasts and cancer cells is a complex and bidirectional process, with fibroblasts influencing cancer cells and vice versa. This interaction is a key feature of the stromal microenvironment and is a major driver of tumor progression and metastasis.

