Endothelial cell-to-cell junctions in vascular pathology

Prof. Elisabetta Dejana
University of Milan
and
Istituto FIRC di Oncologia Molecolare (IFOM)

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Highlights:
Endothelial cell-to-cell adherens junctions supervise crucial vascular functions, such as control of permeability and transmigration of circulating leukocytes, endothelial proliferation and apoptosis. The structure and activity of endothelial cell-cell junctions are dynamically regulated through the formation of different molecular complexes that may change in composition in response to the microenvironment. The molecular organization of the junctional complexes has been described mostly in experimental models. In human pathology, null mutations of specific components of adherens junctions may be accompanied by angiogenesis, vascular malformations and vessel fragility.

Host: Prof. Fabio Mammano