## **Accepted Manuscript**

Title: Mechanisms that drive inflammatory tumor microenvironment, tumor heterogeneity, and metastatic

progression

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PII: S1044-579X(17)30205-5

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.semcancer.2017.08.001

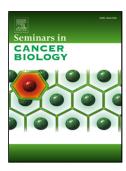
Reference: YSCBI 1366

To appear in: Seminars in Cancer Biology

Received date: 27-2-2017 Revised date: 26-7-2017 Accepted date: 1-8-2017

Please cite this article as: Yang Li, Lin P.Charles.Mechanisms that drive inflammatory tumor microenvironment, tumor heterogeneity, and metastatic progression. *Seminars in Cancer Biology* http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.semcancer.2017.08.001

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Mechanisms that drive inflammatory tumor microenvironment, tumor

heterogeneity, and metastatic progression

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**Abstract:** 

Treatment of cancer metastases has been largely ineffective. It is paramount to understand

the mechanisms underlying the metastatic process, of which the tumor microenvironment

is an indispensable participant. What are the critical cellular and molecular players at the

primary tumor site where metastatic cascade initiates? How is tumor-associated

inflammation regulated? How do altered vasculatures contribute to metastasis? What is the

dynamic nature or heterogeneity of primary tumors and what are the challenges to catch a

moving target? This review summarizes recent progress, mechanistic understanding, and

options for metastasis-targeted therapy.

Abbreviations:

APC: adenomatous polyposis coli

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