



Understanding Microbial Keratitis: Basic Science, Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Management

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Message from the Guest Editors

Microbial keratitis (MK) is a serious and sight-threatening ocular emergency that requires prompt diagnosis and intensive topical antimicrobial therapy to salvage vision. It is caused by a variety of organisms that can be broadly categorized as bacteria, fungi, viruses and protozoa, and is likely to occur in the context of a compromised epithelial layer. Prompt diagnosis and treatment are crucial for the management of MK. Empirical treatment is based on the probability and likelihood of the causative organism in the geographical location. This emphasizes the crucial role that microbial surveillance plays in the treatment of MK and the importance of ongoing monitoring of resistance patterns to help establish effective empirical antimicrobial treatment. Further, MK often requires hospital admission for intensive topical antimicrobial therapy and is associated with a greater economic burden to patients, healthcare and society.

The current Special Issue invites research articles (clinical and basic science), reviews, editorials and comments on contemporary hot topics in the field of microbial keratitis.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The worldwide impact of infectious disease is incalculable. The consequences for human health in terms of morbidity and mortality are obvious and vast but, when infections of animals and plants are also taken into account, it is hard to imagine any other disease that has such a significant impact on our lives—on healthcare systems, on agriculture and on world economics. *Pathogens* is proud to continue to serve the international community by publishing high quality studies that further our understanding of infection and have meaningful consequences for disease intervention.

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