



Rotavirus Epidemiology: Host, Climate and Vaccine Influences

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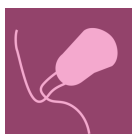
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Message from the Guest Editor

Genetically diverse rotaviruses (RVs) are a major cause of acute viral gastroenteritis in young animals and children. RV genotype and genogroup prevalence varies in different geographical regions and years. Despite the availability and routine use of commercial vaccines against RV group A in humans and animals, morbidity and mortality remain high in children under five in developing countries and neonatal animals. This emphasizes the need for improved understanding of the factors that: i) influence susceptibility to and increased severity of RV diarrhea, ii) compromise vaccine efficacy, and iii) contribute to the greater ability of some genogroups/genotypes to re-assort or cross interspecies barriers. These include the potential interactions of different RV genotypes with histo-blood group antigens, commensal microbiota, maternal antibodies and other intestinal pathogens.

In this Special Issue, we will summarize the current knowledge on different host-related and environmental factors that influence RV epidemiology and pathogenesis and discuss how this information can be used to alleviate RV diarrheal burden in humans and animals.





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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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