



Wildlife Disease Threats

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Message from the Guest Editors

Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) of free-living wild animals can be associated with the “spill-over” from domestic animals to wildlife populations living in proximity or related directly to human intervention, via host or parasite translocations. During the last two decades, there has been a surge in the emergence of infectious diseases, which represents a global threat to human and animal health and to the conservation of global biodiversity. The emergence of such diseases is associated with zoonotic pathogens within a host–parasite continuum between wildlife, domestic animal, and human populations. Disease emergence most frequently results from a change in the ecology of host, pathogen, or both. The expansion of human populations has favored outbreaks of EIDs due to increasing population density, especially in urban areas, and encroachment into wildlife habitat. Surveillance on wildlife emerging and re-emerging diseases is necessary in order to avoid an impact on human and animal health. To control these diseases, veterinary public health is essential, with diagnosis, epidemiological surveillance, and prevention as primary measures.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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