



## The Role of the Virome in Health and Disease

Guest Editor:

**Dr. Felix Broecker**

Idorsia Pharmaceuticals Ltd.,  
Hegenheimermattweg 91, 4123  
Allschwil, Switzerland

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Viruses are the most abundant entities of the human microbiota. The aim of this Special Issue is to shed light on some of the yet-unanswered questions regarding the human virome. For example, it is known that intestinal phage populations are expanded during inflammatory states such as IBD. Yet, it remains unknown if this is characteristic of all inflammatory diseases and, most importantly, whether the expanded bacteriophages are causing the inflammation or are merely a consequence thereof. Moreover, there is evidence that transferring fecal bacteriophages from healthy donors can restore healthy intestinal microbiota in patients with recurrent *Clostridioides difficile* infection. These findings warrant a re-evaluation of the mode of action of fecal microbiota transplantation, traditionally thought to be mediated by transferred bacterial species, not phages.

Keywords include, but are not limited to:

- virome
- viromics
- fecal microbiota transplantation
- fecal virome transplantation
- fecal filtrate transplantation
- phage therapy
- phageome
- SARS-CoV-2
- dysbiosis
- metagenomics





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### Dr. Nico Jehmlich

Department of Molecular  
Systems Biology, UFZ-Helmholtz  
Centre for Environmental  
Research, 04318 Leipzig,  
Germany

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Microorganisms Editorial Office  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
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