



## Chronic Respiratory Infections

Guest Editor:

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Chronic respiratory disease is a group of disorders that primarily affect the lungs and airways. In addition to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma, chronic respiratory diseases include interstitial lung disease, pulmonary sarcoidosis, and pneumoconiosis. Due in great part to the prevalence of harmful environmental, occupational, and behavioral inhalational exposures, chronic respiratory diseases are among the most prevalent non-communicable diseases worldwide and are a prominent cause of global morbidity and mortality. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 4.6 million people die prematurely each year as a result of chronic respiratory disease, accounting for more than 5% of global deaths; almost 90% of these occur in low- and middle-income countries. Unfortunately, compared to other major diseases such as cancer and cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory diseases have received relatively less public attention and research funding. Therefore, it is essential that we pay more attention to researching chronic respiratory disease.





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## Editor-in-Chief

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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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