



The Evolving Biomedical Importance of Bartonella Species Infections

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Message from the Guest Editor

The genus *Bartonella* is comprised of fastidious Gram-negative, slow growing, and facultative intracellular bacteria belonging to the Alpha-2 subgroup of the class Proteobacteria, and the order Rhizobiales. Currently, at least 40 *Bartonella* species or subspecies have been characterized, of which 17 *Bartonella* species have been implicated in association with zoonotic infections in humans. These bacteria have become globally important, but medically underappreciated emerging pathogens impacting animal and human health. The increasing number of animal reservoir hosts known to be infected with various *Bartonella* species, in conjunction with the increasing number of competent or suspected arthropod vectors makes this genus of substantial biomedical importance to microbiologists, diagnosticians, physicians, vector biologists, and veterinarians. The spectrum of longstanding, complex cardiovascular, dermatologic, neurological, and rheumatologic disease manifestations make this genus substantially important to patients. We hope you will participate by submitting a high-quality research paper or review article for inclusion in this Special Issue.





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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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