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Advances in HCV Research

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infects 71 million people worldwide and causes over 500,000 deaths each year. Most of the patients infected with HCV develop chronic infection, often leading to cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), representing the second most common cause of cancer death. Although the direct-acting antivirals (DAAs) which target viral proteins, such as NS3/4A protease, NS5B polymerase, and the NS5A replication complex, can successfully treat 95% of patients with hepatitis C with limited side effects and reduce the risk of HCC, they do not completely eliminate HCV related-liver diseases. Surgical resection and liver transplantation of liver are the only curative methods for these advanced liver diseases if diagnosed early enough. More research is required to understand how HCV induce liver pathogenesis to treat these non-responders. Moreover, access to diagnosis and treatment against HCV remains low globally.

This Special Issue of *Pathogens* invites contributions that should improve our understanding of the development and cure of hepatitis C and liver cancer and cirrhosis. We welcome the submission of both original research articles and reviews.



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Special Issue



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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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