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The CRISPR Therapy of Viral Infections

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

In recent years, there has been an increasing demand for the development of new antiviral strategies due to the prevalence of viral infections such as those caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or the hepatitis B and C viruses (HBV and HCV) and the emergence of a variety of “new” viruses, including SARS-CoV-2. The pharmaceutical industry and the scientific community work on the development of new antiviral drugs, including the repurposing of previously approved drugs. However, alternative strategies are also welcome, such as the development of novel RNA-based therapeutics based on the clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR)-Cas system.

This Special Issue will focus on how CRISPR-Cas can be used as a screening method and a therapeutic gene editing tool to treat or cure viral infections. Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Targeting RNA viruses;
- Targeting DNA viruses;
- Targeting host factors;
- CRISPR screening methods to identify new therapeutic targets.



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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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