



Viral Hepatitis: The New Challenge in the Era of Antiviral Treatments

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Message from the Guest Editor

Today they have several challenges in the knowledge and management of HCV and HBV, due to the development of very efficacious antiviral treatment, have a good prognosis today; however, for these infections the challenge is represented by the case finding and linkage-to-care of the positive subjects, not only in difficult-to reach populations, such as intravenous drug users, prisoners, and immigrants, but also in the general population. For example, since the high efficacy of direct anti-viral agents (DAA) treatment, the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2015 suggested that HCV could be eliminated by HCV treatment within 2030 (i.e., 90% reduction in new chronic infections, 65% reduction in mortality). Moreover, the new challenge for HBV infection is, today, the availability of new diagnostic markers and of possible functional cures. The challenge for HDV infection is today the identification of its epidemiology worldwide and the development of new therapeutic strategies.

Authors are cordially invited to contribute original research papers or reviews to this Special Issue of *Pathogens*.





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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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