



Rotaviruses and Rotavirus Vaccines

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear colleagues,

The Rotavirus genus within the Reoviridae virus family encompasses a large and diverse population of viruses capable of causing disease in a variety of animal species. Group A Rotavirus remains a leading cause of morbidity and mortality due to gastroenteritis in young children worldwide; estimated to have caused 128,500 deaths and 258,173,300 episodes of diarrhea among children under 5 years of age in 2016. However, the burden of disease has decreased substantially over the last decade, largely due to the inclusion of rotavirus vaccines into the national immunisation programs of over 100 countries worldwide.

Rotavirus strains exhibit a degree of host species restriction; zoonotic transmission substantially increases the genetic diversity of strains causing human infection. Understanding changes to rotavirus epidemiology and genetic diversity in the vaccine era is critical to ensure the continued success of the global vaccination efforts.

For this Special Issue of Pathogens, we invite authors to submit original research or review articles representing recent advances in our knowledge of rotavirus epidemiology, genotypic diversity and genomic characterisation.



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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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