



HBV and HCV Infection in Children and Adolescents

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Message from the Guest Editors

Hepatitis B (HBV) and C (HCV) infections are the major causes of chronic liver disease and are associated with significant morbidity and mortality worldwide. Thus, hepatitis B and C have been recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO) as one of the major public health problems worldwide. The estimated global prevalence of HBV infection in children aged 5 years or younger is 1–3%. According to the recent epidemiological reports, there are over 3.2 million children living with HCV worldwide. In 2016, the WHO initiated an ambitious plan to eliminate viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030. The introduction of highly effective and safe direct-acting antivirals (DAAs) has radically improved HCV treatment. Unfortunately, little attention has been given to treating children and adolescents living with chronic hepatitis C or hepatitis B. Their access to modern therapies remains limited. This Special Edition of *Vaccines* aims to provide updated information on epidemiological issues, diagnostics, and treatment in children and adolescents with hepatitis B and C.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Vaccines (ISSN 2076-393X) has had a 6-year history of publishing peer-reviewed state of the art research that advances the knowledge of immunology in human disease protection. Immunotherapeutics, prophylactic vaccines, immunomodulators, adjuvants and the global differences in regulatory affairs are some of the highlights of the research published that have shaped global health. Our open access policy allows all researchers and interested parties to immediately scrutinize the rigorous evidence our publications have to offer. We are proud to present the work and perspectives of many to contribute to future decisions concerning human health.

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