

Special Issue

Vaccine Literacy and Social-Cognitive Determinants of Vaccination

Message from the Guest Editors

Vaccine hesitancy and uptake are the result of social cognitive determinants, which involve a complex interaction of social and cognitive factors that influence people's behavior towards vaccination. Multiple factors can influence vaccination choice, such as the level of health and vaccine literacy, personal and cultural beliefs, distrust in healthcare authorities, influence of misinformation or conspiracy theories, fear of side effects or adverse reactions, risk perception and so on. Understanding this problem and identifying the main predictors of vaccine reluctance or uptake could be useful for developing appropriate strategies to increase awareness and willingness to vaccinate. We aim to explore the various social-cognitive determinants of vaccine hesitancy and uptake, and consider their interplay in influencing people's attitudes and behaviors towards vaccination. We also aim to investigate the relationships between social-cognitive determinants and socioeconomic factors in shaping vaccination choices, as well as the interventions that can improve vaccine literacy and address vaccine hesitancy.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Vaccines (ISSN 2076-393X), founded in 2013, now has a firm history of publishing peer-reviewed, state-of-the-art research papers on vaccines and vaccination in the broadest sense. Areas covered include, but are not limited to, novel and emerging vaccine technologies, building on in-depth knowledge of what constitutes a protective immune response. These can be new vaccines for old diseases, or old vaccines for new diseases. Vaccines against cancer and autoimmune diseases explicitly are also within the scope of the journal. Because public opinion and even government policies towards vaccines and vaccination have changed, vaccine policy and public health issues are major concerns. Climate change will also have an impact on the spread of infectious diseases, and thus also on vaccine and vaccination policies worldwide.

Editor-in-Chief

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.8 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).