



## Hepatitis C Virus Infection in Humans and Animals: Pathogenesis, Prevention and Treatment

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**25 September 2024**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Viral hepatitis (a disease caused by inflammation of the liver) is one of the major threats to human health worldwide. Different groups of viruses that spread via different routes and have a wide range of hosts can cause human hepatitis, causing death and disability. For HCV infection, the approval of oral antiviral drugs without interferon direct action has revolutionized the treatment of chronic hepatitis C and achieved a cure for HCV infection. However, there is currently no effective vaccine to prevent HCV infection.

Due to co-evolution and species selection between virus and host, humans are the only natural host of HCV. This makes it difficult to construct suitable and easily accessible in vivo animal models of viral infection. For cell culture models, although some cell models can be successfully infected with HCV, there are certain limitations, especially in the study of virus–host interactions or HCV vaccines. In view of this, this Special Issue is aimed at elucidating the pathogenesis of HCV infection and providing new ideas for prevention and treatment.





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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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