



Persistence in Babesia

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

One of the hallmarks of babesiosis, a disease that afflicts many animals and humans caused by obligate protozoal parasites of the genus *Babesia*, is the characteristic of persistence. The lifecycle of *Babesia spp.*, which involves a tick vector as the definitive host, has a high risk of disruption and failure. Despite this, these parasites are effective at persisting in the environment even at low transmission rates. These characteristics impact heavily on the development of vaccines, both live and non-living, as well as strategies to control or eliminate the parasite from the environment. Recent work has begun to shed light on how these parasites manage to persist despite our best efforts at their control, but a real understanding remains over the horizon. In this Special Issue, we invite investigators to submit original research, reviews, or short communications that will illuminate aspects of *Babesia* biology mediating parasite persistence in the vertebrate or invertebrate host, or impacting parasite control strategies.





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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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