

Special Issue

Wildlife Disease Threats

Message from the Guest Editors

Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) of free-living wild animals can be associated with the “spill-over” from domestic animals to wildlife populations living in proximity or related directly to human intervention, via host or parasite translocations. During the last two decades, there has been a surge in the emergence of infectious diseases, which represents a global threat to human and animal health and to the conservation of global biodiversity. The emergence of such diseases is associated with zoonotic pathogens within a host–parasite continuum between wildlife, domestic animal, and human populations. Disease emergence most frequently results from a change in the ecology of host, pathogen, or both. The expansion of human populations has favored outbreaks of EIDs due to increasing population density, especially in urban areas, and encroachment into wildlife habitat. Surveillance on wildlife emerging and re-emerging diseases is necessary in order to avoid an impact on human and animal health. To control these diseases, veterinary public health is essential, with diagnosis, epidemiological surveillance, and prevention as primary measures.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

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