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Host–Pathogen Interactions During Influenza Virus Infection

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Although feral ducks are proposed to be the natural reservoir of influenza A viruses, these viruses are also able to infect a wide variety of mammalian and avian species. However, each type of influenza A virus strain must adapt to its respective host, and this species specificity has led to a high degree of sequence variation within influenza A viruses. Furthermore, additional adaptive mutations are required for the maintenance of the virus in its new host. These changes may facilitate either the interaction between specific virus proteins and essential host cell factors, or they may activate pro-viral cellular pathways and processes in the new host.

An improved understanding of the biological properties of the viruses that are currently circulating in the natural environment should aid our ability to evaluate the threat that these viruses pose to human and animal health. In this Special Issue, a series of articles have been collated that focus on understanding the interaction between the influenza viruses and the host that they infect.

Dr. Richard Sugrue

Guest Editor



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Special Issue