

Special Issue

Microorganisms in Animal and Human Health and Environmental Spaces

Message from the Guest Editors

From a global perspective, zoonotic diseases are of growing interest for the Scientific Community for their ongoing spreading and the affecting of human health. Many factors contribute to this phenomenon; for instance, the close contact with pet animals in daily life or during pet-therapy activities exposes humans to potential risks of infection, just as the attending areas polluted by animal faeces. A huge range of pathogens is causative agents of zoonotic diseases from infective agents (e.g. bacteria, viruses) to parasitic ones (e.g. fungi, helminths, protozoa). It is worthy of note that animals could be a source of infections for humans directly through the close-contact or indirectly by the environmental contamination (e.g. giardiasis, toxoplasmosis, salmonellosis, etc.); *vice versa* unhealthy humans could infect animals. Thus, the continuous monitoring of the animal population, the adoption of surveillance strategies and animals' management protocols including appropriate diagnosis, therapy and prevention are strongly requested to face emerging and re-emerging zoonotic pathogens to guarantee both animal and human health.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

IJERPH provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality peer-reviewed journal.

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