Special Issue

Novel Insights into Pneumocystis Colonizations

Message from the Guest Editors

Many factors, including genetic background, pollution, and biological agents, may determine the severity of acute and chronic respiratory diseases. That is the case for the fungus *Pneumocystis*, which was described as the causative agent of the often-lethal *Pneumocvstis* pneumonia (PcP) in immunosuppressed patients. However, molecular diagnostics have permitted the recognition that this fungus is widely distributed in immunocompetent or less immunocompromised populations across all ages. For example, it is associated with the 2-4-month age window of increased severity of respiratory disease in infants and increased severity of chronic obstructive respiratory diseases such as COPD and asthma. Moreover, the presence of Pneumocystis has been described recently in the placenta, suggesting a putative vertical transmission of the fungus during pregnancy. All these elements highlight the urgency of deepening our knowledge of the pathogenic mechanisms associated with this fungal infection, which need further characterization. We hope this Special Issue can present novel evidence of Pneumocystis epidemiology and pathogenesis beyond PcP.

Guest Editors

Dr. Diego A. Rojas

Instituto de Ciencias Biomédicas (ICB), Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud, Universidad Autónoma de Chile, Santiago, Chile

Dr. Sergio L. Vargas

Programa de Microbiología y Micología, ICBM, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile

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The Journal of Fungi (JoF, ISSN 2309-608X) is an international, peer-reviewed, scientific, open access journal that provides an advanced forum for studies related to pathogenic fungi, fungal biology, and all other aspects of fungal research. Research articles, reviews and other contents are released on the Internet immediately after acceptance. The scientific community and the general public have unlimited free access to the content as soon as it is published. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. David S. Perlin

Hackensack Meridian Health Center for Discovery and Innovation, 340 Kingsland Street, Nutley, NJ 07110, USA

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