

Special Issue

Molecular Epidemiology of Animal Viral Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Animal viral diseases represent serious risks for the health and welfare of domestic animals, highly impacting the zootechnics economy and threatening biodiversity in wild animal populations. Despite enforced international animal health rules and biosecurity measures, dangerous outbreaks are still occurring, as demonstrated, for example, by the recent reports on foot and mouth disease virus in Germany, Hungary, and the Czech Republic. Investigations on genetic characteristics are therefore necessary to better understand the epidemiology of these pathogens, applying advances in laboratory techniques, such as full genome sequencing, to elucidate specific aspects on the molecular level, such as the means of diffusion, transmissibility, and virulence, or mechanisms to escape host defense. This information is especially relevant for the viral pathogens possessing transboundary and emerging, as well as zoonotic potential traits. The study of control and prevention strategies, encompassing research on new vaccines, forms part of the various efforts that scientists and healthcare providers must consider in order to challenge sanitary threats, amplified by climatic changes and a globalized world.

Guest Editor

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