



Advances in SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Variants

Guest Editor:

Dr. Linda Houhamdi

Assistance Publique - Hôpitaux
de Marseille, IHU Méditerranée
Infection, Marseille, France

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues, SARS-CoV-2 variants are currently classified as variants of interest (VOI) or variants of concern (VOC). A variant is considered a VOI when it has mutations that are suspected or known to cause significant changes and it is circulating widely. The World Health Organization continuously monitors the VOIs in case they spread more easily, cause more severe disease, escape the body's immune response regarding natural defense mechanisms or vaccines. Several VOCs have been detected, including the Alpha variant (B.1.1.7) first identified in the UK, Beta variant (B.1.351) in South Africa, Gamma variant (P.1/B.1.1.28.1) in Brazil, Delta variant (B.1.617.2) in India and more recently the Omicron variant (B.1.1.529) in South Africa in November 2021. From this perspective, we are pleased to invite you to present submissions on the topic, "Frontier Research in SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Variants", which deserves a Special Issue in *Microorganisms*.

Keywords: SARS-CoV-2; COVID-19; variant of concern; variant of interest; genomic genotyping; phylogeny; molecular genotyping; screening; GISAID (Global Initiative on Sharing Avians Influenza Data); Pangolin





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Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Nico Jehmlich

Department of Molecular
Toxicology, UFZ-Helmholtz
Centre for Environmental
Research, 04318 Leipzig,
Germany

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Microorganisms Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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