Special Issue

Colonization and Virulence of Opportunistic Pathogens

Message from the Guest Editor

Opportunistic pathogens encompass bacteria, fungi, viruses or parasites that are usually harmless residents, and some may be beneficial to their host. However, microbes colonizing body systems may cause infections due to a forced location change by external factors or an impairment in the host's defense system. This may increase the possibility of these microbes adapting to the new environment and expressing specific virulence characteristics which aid in initiating infections. However, the role of the local microbiome and the abiotic environmental factors, in addition to the capability of these opportunistic pathogens to adapt and cause damage, is a topic worthy of investigation in hosts including humans, animals and plants. Furthermore, new detection methods and the development of targeted therapies against these virulence factors are topics within the scope of this Special Issue. We look forward to receiving your valuable contributions in the form of original research or review papers that will shed light on this important topic of host–pathogen relationships.

Guest Editor

Dr. Taghrid Istivan

School of Science, STEM College, RMIT University, Melbourne, VIC 3001, Australia

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 April 2025)

Microorganisms

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.2
CiteScore 7.7
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/193641

Microorganisms
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
microorganisms@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/microorganisms

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"Microorganism" merges the idea of the very small with the idea of the evolving reproducing organism is a unifying principle for the discipline of microbiology. Our journal recognizes the broadly diverse yet connected nature of microorganisms and provides an advanced publishing forum for original articles from scientists involved in high-quality basic and applied research on any prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganism, and for research on the ecology, genomics and evolution of microbial communities as well as that exploring cultured microorganisms in the laboratory.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Nico Jehmlich
Department of Molecular Toxicology, UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, 04318 Leipzig, Germany

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