

Special Issue

Acanthamoeba spp. as Factors for Severe Infectious Diseases in Humans, 2nd Edition

Message from the Guest Editors

Different strains of *Acanthamoeba* spp., widely distributed in natural and man-made environments, are able to enter the human body from different sources, causing pathogenic effects. Pathogenic *Acanthamoeba* strains cause the vision-threatening, difficult-to-diagnose corneal disease *Acanthamoeba* keratitis (AK). The progressive, devastating, considered-rare disease can result in a loss of visual acuity and even blindness; successful treatment has not yet been fully established. Threats to individual and public health caused by AK remain poorly investigated. They are a worldwide medical problem; however, the knowledge and awareness of them are still insufficient. There are challenges in AK management: suitable clinical and laboratory diagnosis, in vivo/in vitro and molecular techniques, epidemiology aspects, chemotherapy, pathogenesis mechanisms, the potential role of concomitant infections and endosymbiotic microorganisms as secondary disease factors, an association with oral cavity microbiota, the influence of various risk factors. In this Special Issue, we will present up-to-date data and advanced research on the prevention of health threats caused by *Acanthamoeba* spp. infections.

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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.

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