

Special Issue

Infection Diseases and Chronic Health Conditions

Message from the Guest Editor

Rather than discussing the role of infections as major determinants of chronic diseases, this Special Issue aims at focusing on the complex and bidirectional relationship between these two apparently distinguished groups of disorders. There are several reasons why an infection may be associated with a chronic condition: the infection may be more prevalent in patients with the chronic disease (for a compromised immune response); the pathogen increases the risk of getting the disease, or causes the disease only when combined with other causal factors (genetic factors, or toxic exposure). Infection (such as seasonal influenza) may occur in the background of an established chronic disease and interact with it, modifying its natural history (increasing the risk of hospital admissions and death). Pathogens can also cause an “immunologic scarring” even after resolution, accounting for a wide range of chronic effects. More studies on interactions between infections and chronic diseases might help to understand and optimize the management of both and would help to apply pharmacologic approaches that are able to manage chronic diseases while treating infections.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

"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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