Special Issue

Airborne Microbes and Public Health

Message from the Guest Editors

Airborne microbes, including bacteria, viruses, and fungi, pose significant risks to public health because they can spread through the air and cause infections and allergic reactions. Understanding airborne microbial composition, particularly in relation to environmental factors like temperature, humidity, pollution, and climatic change, is crucial for assessing potential health impacts.

Among the health implications, respiratory illnesses (e.g., influenza, tuberculosis, and COVID-19) are particularly notable, as these pathogens can spread rapidly and affect large populations. Allergens from fungi and bacteria can also trigger asthma and other allergic conditions. Due to these risks, monitoring and controlling airborne microbial communities is essential in public health efforts.

Emerging technologies, including metagenomics and advanced air sampling methods, are revolutionizing our ability to identify and quantify airborne microbes, making it possible to respond more effectively to microbial threats. By integrating these tools into public health strategies, we can better predict and control outbreaks and strengthen our resilience against future airborne infections.

Guest Editors

Dr. María Del Carmen Calderón-Ezquerro

Genotoxicology and Environmental Mutagenesis Group, Department of Environmental Sciences, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Mexico City, Mexico

Dr. Carolina Brunner-Mendoza

Microbiology and Parasitology Department, School of Medicine, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, Mexico

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

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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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