

Special Issue

Toward a Better Understanding of *Listeria monocytogenes* Virulence

Message from the Guest Editors

Listeria monocytogenes is a foodborne bacterial pathogen and the causative agent of listeriosis, with pregnant women, neonates, immunocompromised individuals, and the elderly representing high-risk infection groups. Different strains of *L. monocytogenes* may vary in their ability to cause this disease. Indeed, a number of virulence factors and mechanisms that play important roles in the pathogenesis of listeriosis have been identified and characterized. However, future studies integrating genomic information with environmental, epidemiological and clinical data may allow us to uncover new mechanisms of host–pathogen interaction. The aim of this Special Issue is to present and discuss our current understanding the virulence and pathogenesis of *L. monocytogenes* through epidemiology, molecular and cell biology studies.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 February 2024)



Microorganisms

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CiteScore 7.7
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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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