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Prions and Prion-Like Transmissible Protein Pathogens

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (31 May 2023)

Message from the Guest Editors

Prions are infectious proteins that are associated with a group of transmissible neurodegenerative diseases in humans and animals, such as Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease in humans, scrapie in sheep and goats, mad cow disease in cattle, and chronic wasting disease in elk and deer. The infectious prion proteins are able to propagate and duplicate and spread from individual to individual in the absence of DNA. Interestingly, prion-like proteins have also recently been observed in other neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer disease, Parkinson's disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, etc. These share the prion-like features of propagation and transmission from cell to cell, although in contrast to prions, transmission from individual to individual has not be reported in these prion-like misfolded proteins. Now, prions have become the prototypes for these emerging groups of transmissible protein pathogens.

We welcome all types of articles that refer to prions and prion-like transmissible misfolded protein pathogens; pathogenesis, diagnosis, and potential therapeutic responses to human and animal prion diseases.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The worldwide impact of infectious disease is incalculable. The consequences for human health in terms of morbidity and mortality are obvious and vast but, when infections of animals and plants are also taken into account, it is hard to imagine any other disease that has such a significant impact on our lives—on healthcare systems, on agriculture and on world economics. *Pathogens* is proud to continue to serve the international community by publishing high quality studies that further our understanding of infection and have meaningful consequences for disease intervention.

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