



The Interaction between Pathogens and the Chicken Innate Immune System

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (31 July 2022)

Message from the Guest Editors

Activation of the adaptive immune system results in long-term immunological memory, which is pathogen-specific. Recently, it has been shown that chicken innate immune cells are also able to develop immunological memory, a concept described as trained innate immunity which is not pathogen-specific, which may lead to enhanced protection against multiple pathogens.

Chicken immunology is still in its infancy. The focus of this Special Issue will be the interaction between pathogens and the chicken innate immune system and how this will affect the outcome of this interaction for either pathogen or host. Special focus will be on the mechanism by which pathogens either activate or evade the different components of the innate immune system.

This knowledge will be important for the design of effective vaccines and other intervention strategies that enhance the responsiveness of the chicken innate immune system, with the ultimate goal of making chickens more resistant to infectious 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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Journal Rank: JCR - Q2 (*Microbiology*) / CiteScore - Q2 (*General Immunology and Microbiology*)

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