

Special Issue

Molecular Detection and Characterisation of Viral Pathogens: 2nd Edition

Message from the Guest Editors

Viruses are highly diverse entities capable of infecting all life forms. Whilst their genomes, modes of transmission and pathogenicity are highly variable, all viruses require the machinery of the infected host cell to replicate, and as such are subject to selective processes within the host environment. It is both this dependency and diversity that binds viruses together, and which continue to challenge virus detection, classification and control efforts and, at the most fundamental level, the determination of virus evolutionary origin. In light of these challenges, this Special Issue seeks to explore how our own dependency on diverse molecular detection and characterization approaches can be leveraged to effectively deal with these impacts. In this Special Issue we invite you to submit manuscripts that report on components of virus ecology, epidemiology and control that hinge on molecular detection and characterization, including virus discovery, diagnosis, co-infection, virulence, evolution/co-evolution, epidemiology, transmission dynamics, vaccine strain selection and host–pathogen interactions. We welcome contributions in the form of original research papers or reviews.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 December 2025)



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About the Journal

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.

Editor-in-Chief

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