

Special Issue

Hospital-Acquired Infections: Risk Factors and Preventions

Message from the Guest Editors

Nosocomial infections, also known as hospital-acquired infections (HAIs), a term coined in the 1990s, have a significant public health impact in terms of morbidity, mortality, and care-related costs, despite continued advances in the areas of epidemiology and scientific research. Risk factors and preventive actions compete for the challenge considering that more than half of HAIs are preventable, especially those associated with certain behaviours, through a multidisciplinary approach. Interventions are needed at several levels to contain and avoid HAIs: education, adherence to good hygiene practices during care, hand hygiene, patient screening, surveillance, antibiotic stewardship, and guidelines. Furthermore, an essential element is the environment, where microbes persist, and 'high touch' surfaces because of their role in cross-contamination. A holistic approach is the effective key to managing the problem. The aim of this Special Issue is to bring together technological, structural, educational, and operational experiences for the prevention and management of HAIs.

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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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