Special Issue

Mechanisms of Infection in Zika Virus

Message from the Guest Editor

Zika virus is a mosquito-borne virus that was first identified in Uganda in 1947. Zika virus is primarily transmitted by infected mosquitoes of the Aedes (Stegomyia) genus, mainly *Aedes aegypti*, in tropical and subtropical regions. Zika virus can also be transmitted from mother to fetus during pregnancy, as well as through sexual contact, transfusion of blood and blood products, and possibly organ transplantation. Zika virus infection can cause Guillain–Barré syndrome, neuropathy and myelitis, particularly in adults and older children, and microcephaly in fetuses and newborns. The recent outbreak of Zika virus infections in South and Central America has been declared a public health emergency of international concern by the World Health Organization. Currently, there is no commercially available vaccine or treatment to treat these viral infections, leading to an urgent need for research into the mechanisms of Zika virus infection.

Guest Editor

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

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