

Special Issue

The Road to Eliminating Filarial Diseases—Treatment, Diagnostic and Surveillance Strategies

Message from the Guest Editors

Human filariae such as *Onchocerca volvulus*, *Wuchereria bancrofti* and *Brugia* spp. are vector-borne parasitic nematodes that are endemic in tropical and subtropical regions. Approximately 1 billion individuals live in endemic regions where filarial diseases are a public health concern contributing to significant disability adjusted life years. Thus, efforts to control and eliminate filarial diseases were launched by the WHO in the 1970s. These strategies are mainly based on mass drug administration targeting the worm's offspring (microfilariae), and are accompanied in part by vector control strategies. The World Health Assembly approved development and implementation of the WHO's roadmap to attain the Sustainable Development Goals, which includes the halt of onchocerciasis transmission and elimination of lymphatic filariasis as a public health problem by 2030.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Achim Hoerauf

Institute for Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology (IMMIP), University Hospital Bonn (UKB), Bonn, Germany

Dr. Manuel Ritter

Institute of Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology (IMMIP), University Hospital Bonn Venusberg-Campus 1, Building 63, Room 1G 003, D-53127 Bonn, Germany

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
pathogens@mdpi.com

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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

Prof. Dr. Hinh Ly

Department of Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, MN, USA

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