

Special Issue

Group B-Streptococcus (GBS)

Message from the Guest Editors

Group B Streptococcus (*Streptococcus agalactiae*, GBS) is a major cause of neonatal and young infant sepsis worldwide. It also causes disease in pregnant women, the elderly, and those with underlying comorbidities. Many aspects of GBS remain unexplored: these include whether early- and late-onset disease are the same condition, or whether late-onset disease occurs because of immune dysregulation in the intestine or in blood; whether breastmilk is a potential cause of infection, and whether and how breastmilk might protect against infection; what bacterial targets are preserved globally that might assist vaccine design; whether rapid diagnostics can be used in low-income settings to identify women at risk of transferring GBS to their infants; whether an amount of antibody transferred via the placenta can be determined above which an infant is protected from GBS disease and whether a vaccine would be effective in the elderly as well as in pregnant women. The aims of this Special Issue are to better understand the host–pathogen interaction in order to advance the field of GBS.

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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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