

Special Issue

Molecular Pathogenesis of Staphylococcal Infections

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues, *Staphylococcus aureus* persistently colonizes the nares of about 20% of the population and is a transient resident of the remainder. The bacterium can cause both superficial skin infections and more serious and potentially life-threatening invasive diseases. Treatment has been compromised by the development of resistance to multiple antibiotics. *S. aureus* expresses a plethora of secreted and surface proteins that promote infection by facilitating adhesion to host cells and tissues, invasion of host cells, and evasion of innate immune responses by interfering with complement and neutrophils. The bacterium can also interfere with adaptive immune responses. Molecular analysis of virulence factors has involved construction of mutants that are defective in a factor and comparing virulence with the wild type in appropriate animal models.

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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