Special Issue

Rat Lungworm Disease

Message from the Guest Editor

The parasitic nematode *Angiostrongylus cantonensis* is a global causative agent of eosinophilic meningitis in humans. It is sometimes referred to as neuroangiostrongyliasis or colloquially known as rat lungworm disease. This disease has resulted in morbidity and mortality in humans and other accidental hosts, and the geographical range of this parasite continues to increase through global expansion. The parasites' life cycle involves development to the adult stage in the pulmonary vasculature of the definitive rat host, which then produces thousands of eggs from which first stage larvae (L1) develop. L1s are subsequently released in the rat feces. Slugs and snails consume L1 in rat feces, and essential intermediate development continues to the L3 infective stage. Accidental hosts ingest the L3 either in food, water, or other beverages and become infected. In this Special Issue, we proudly showcase the valuable research work providing the most current and fascinating information available on *A. cantonensis* and the infections they can cause. This collective body of literature greatly advances our critical knowledge of *A. cantonensis* and this disease.

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.

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