Special Issue

Herpesvirus Infections and Antiviral Drugs

Message from the Guest Editor

Herpesviruses are DNA viruses that can cause both latent and lytic infections. During symptomatic infection, infected cells transcribe lytic viral genes, while in some cells a small number of viral genes, termed latency-associated transcripts (LATs), are produced. LATs help viruses to persist in cells (hosts) indefinitely. The long-term latency is symptom-free and makes the infected cells almost “invisible” to the immune system. Antiviral drugs, which target viral DNA polymerase, can partially control the signs and symptoms of herpes infection. However, these drugs neither eradicate latent viruses nor affect the risk, frequency, or severity of recurrences after the drug is discontinued. Therefore, it is a constant need to develop both new antivirals and new treatment strategies for herpesvirus infections. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to submit your manuscript to this Special Issue, which will surely act as an excellent vehicle for the dissemination of your research. We will accept reviews and original scientific papers, and very much look forward to your valuable contribution.

Guest Editor

Dr. Malgorzata Krzyzowska

Associate Professor, Laboratory of Nanobiology and Biomaterials, Military Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Warsaw, Poland

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

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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

Prof. Dr. Hinh Ly
Department of Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, MN, USA

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