Special Issue

SARS-CoV-2: From Virus Replication Cycle to Antiviral Strategies

Message from the Guest Editor

SARS-CoV-2 has already infected 263 million people and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has killed more than 5 million people worldwide. To prevent further deaths and minimize the socio-economic burden, the global population must be vaccinated and acquire herd immunity. However, it needs to be highlighted that vaccine effectiveness and protection can be low in some groups (i.e., 'vaccine non-responders', immunocompromised patients), and these people can develop severe COVID-19. Moreover, considering the relatively low proportion of vaccinated people, there is a risk of the emergence of new potential vaccine-resistant SARS-CoV-2 strains. Therefore, in addition to vaccination, efficient drugs for COVID-19 treatment need to be developed. Knowledge of the viral replication cycle and virus–host interaction is key to developing novel antivirals. Thus, this *Pathogens* Special Issue will focus on SARS-CoV-2 biology, including virus entry, replication, assembly and release, as well as SARS-CoV-2–host cell interactions, and potential implications for the development of novel antiviral strategies

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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