

Special Issue

Development of Oncolytic Viruses as Platforms for Drug Delivery to Cancers

Message from the Guest Editors

Oncolytic viruses (OVs) are a promising and emerging class of antitumoral therapeutics that selectively target cancer cells by exploiting defects in intrinsic antiviral pathways or the presence of specific receptors. While only one OV has been clinically approved so far by the FDA and the EMA, numerous trials are ongoing, and it is therefore conceivable that over the next years there will be more OVs available in clinical practice as new weapons against difficult-to-treat tumors. One of the most interesting features of these vectors is their versatility, which allows OVs to combine direct cytotoxicity, an immunotherapeutic mechanism of action, and the delivery of therapeutic genes and/or drugs to cancers. Most OVs can be engineered to directly encode therapeutic genes, encompassing biological drugs such as immune checkpoint inhibitors. This Special Issue of *Pharmaceutics* will be focused on the development of oncolytic viruses as platforms for the targeted delivery of drugs to tumors, including both therapeutic genes encoded by the viral genome and proteins or small molecules that can be attached to viral particles before administration.

Guest Editors

Dr. Alberto Reale

Fondazione Banca dei Tessuti del Veneto ETS, 31100 Treviso, Italy

Dr. Jennifer Altomonte

Klinik und Poliklinik für Innere Medizin II, Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technical University of Munich, Ismaninger Str. 22, 81675 Munich, Germany

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 August 2026



Pharmaceutics

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.5
CiteScore 10.0
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/239470

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

[mdpi.com/journal/
pharmaceutics](https://mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceutics)





Pharmaceutics

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.5
CiteScore 10.0
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/
pharmaceutics](https://mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceutics)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Pharmaceutics (ISSN 1999-4923) is an online open access journal on the science and technology of pharmaceuticals and biopharmaceuticals. The scientific community, the wider community and the general public have unlimited and free access to the content as soon as a paper is published; this open access to your research ensures your findings are shared with the widest possible audience. Please consider publishing your impressive work in this high quality journal. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Patrick J. Sinko

Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, William Levine Hall, Room 225C, 160 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8020, USA

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, Embase, CAPIus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Pharmacology and Pharmacy) / CiteScore - Q1 (Pharmaceutical Science)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.7 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).