



## Opportunities and Barriers to Immunization Hesitance

Guest Editors:

### Dr. Amy L. Baxter

Department of Emergency  
Medicine, Augusta University,  
1120 15th St, Augusta, GA 30912,  
USA

### Dr. Renata J. M. Engler

Allergy-Immunology-  
Immunizations, Department of  
Medicine, Walter Reed National  
Military Medical Center,  
Uniformed Services University of  
the Health Sciences, and  
Immunization Healthcare  
Division, Defense Health Agency,  
Bethesda, MD, USA

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Growing resistance to vaccination requires a new approach to public health in the context of worldwide pandemics. The mismatch between stated beliefs and behaviors reveals the shortcomings of survey research in the context of a socially undesirable trait: few are willing to acknowledge needle fear, and medical investigators often lack personal empathy with the problem needed for appropriate design. Freeman et al. estimated that 15% of those in the UK refusing vaccines did so due to needle fear. Basic issues of pain, vasovagal response, and fear of side effects once thought relevant only in pediatrics have become relevant to regaining trust and willingness for population-based vaccination.

Both understanding the basic interplay of pain, fear, and residual perspectives on vaccine acceptance and optimizing the appropriateness of vaccines individually can rebuild trust in the most basic pillar of public health.





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## Editor-in-Chief

### Prof. Dr. Ralph A. Tripp

Department of Infectious  
Diseases, College of Veterinary  
Medicine, University of Georgia,  
Athens, GA 30602-7387, USA

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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*Vaccines* Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
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