

Special Issue

SARS-CoV-2 Infections; Treatment and Development of Vaccine

Message from the Guest Editors

The infectious disease (COVID-19) caused by the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) is still raging through mutant strains all over the world. In order to deal with this unprecedented situation, therapeutic drugs and vaccines against COVID-19 are being commercialized faster than ever before. Along with changes in infectivity, transmissibility, antigenicity, and pathogenicity, the efficacy of current vaccines is also of concern in the emergence of mutant strains. Multiple vaccines of different types are currently licenced, including mRNA vaccines, viral vector vaccines, and recombinant protein vaccines. At present, the following factors have been clarified regarding the preventive effects obtained by vaccines and their mechanisms of the action.

Neutralizing antibodies against the S protein play an important role in the protective effects induced by commercial vaccines. It is possible that effects other than the neutralizing activity of cell-mediated immunity and humoral immunity also contribute to the preventive effect of vaccines, and these immune responses may affect the long-term persistence of vaccine efficacy and preventive effects against severe disease.

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Vaccines (ISSN 2076-393X) has had a 6-year history of publishing peer-reviewed state of the art research that advances the knowledge of immunology in human disease protection. Immunotherapeutics, prophylactic vaccines, immunomodulators, adjuvants and the global differences in regulatory affairs are some of the highlights of the research published that have shaped global health. Our open access policy allows all researchers and interested parties to immediately scrutinize the rigorous evidence our publications have to offer. We are proud to present the work and perspectives of many to contribute to future decisions concerning human health.

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