

Special Issue

Epidemiology and Real-World Evidence to Inform Vaccine Design, De-Risk Development, and Maximize Real-World Impact

Message from the Guest Editors

Epidemiological insights are critical for defining areas for improvement in public health, understanding transmission dynamics, and identifying high-risk or high-impact populations—all of which directly inform target product profiles, development priorities, and the design of clinical trials. Real-world evidence (RWE) further strengthens the value of vaccine candidates by contextualizing clinical trial data, supporting regulatory submissions, and demonstrating effectiveness and safety in real-world use. RWE is also a key tool for detecting rare safety signals, tracking the impact of variants, and quantifying broader effects, such as herd protection. Collectively, epidemiology and RWE enable more strategic decision-making, reduce development risk, and improve the likelihood of successful product adoption and the likelihood that vaccines will exert a sustained impact.

This Special Issue welcomes contributions that demonstrate how epidemiology and RWE can be effectively leveraged to inform vaccine design, de-risk development, accelerate timelines, and optimize real-world implementation.

Guest Editors

Dr. Hilary Whitworth

IAVI Africa, Black River Park, Observatory, Cape Town 7925, South Africa

Dr. Suzanna C. Francis

IAVI Europe, Van Diemenstraat 48, 1013 NJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Ralph A. Tripp

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

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