

Special Issue

Opportunities and Barriers to Immunization Hesitance

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.

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

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 July 2023)



Vaccines

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.5
CiteScore 7.7
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/141601

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

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





Vaccines

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.5
CiteScore 7.7
Indexed in PubMed



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



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Vaccines (ISSN 2076-393X), founded in 2013, now has a firm history of publishing peer-reviewed, state-of-the-art research papers on vaccines and vaccination in the broadest sense. Areas covered include, but are not limited to, novel and emerging vaccine technologies, building on in-depth knowledge of what constitutes a protective immune response. These can be new vaccines for old diseases, or old vaccines for new diseases. Vaccines against cancer and autoimmune diseases explicitly are also within the scope of the journal. Because public opinion and even government policies towards vaccines and vaccination have changed, vaccine policy and public health issues are major concerns. Climate change will also have an impact on the spread of infectious diseases, and thus also on vaccine and vaccination policies worldwide.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Ger Rijkers

Department of Health, Cognition and Behavior, University College
Roosevelt, 4331 CB Middelburg, The Netherlands

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

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

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Medicine, Research and Experimental) /
CiteScore - Q1 (Infectious Diseases)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.8 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).