

Special Issue

COVID-19 Vaccine-Associated Autoimmune Diseases and Disorders

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear all, The interplay between vaccines and autoimmunity is well known. Patients with autoimmune rheumatic diseases are of great concern regarding COVID-19 infection and vaccination. SLE patients have a higher risk for COVID-19-related complications, including mortality, compared to age and sex-adjusted controls and other autoimmune rheumatic disease conditions. On the other hand, the risk of autoimmune rheumatic disease flares following the COVID-19 vaccine has raised some concerns. However, overall COVID-19 vaccine appears to be safe among SLE patients, with a low rate of severe adverse effects. In addition, a new onset of autoimmune rheumatic diseases among previously healthy patients vaccinated against COVID-19 has recently emerged sporadically. To improve the understanding of the relationship between vaccines and new diagnoses of autoimmune diseases, this special issue of *Vaccines* focuses on researching this phenomenon. We encourage researchers to contribute original studies, reports, and reviews of the epidemiology, molecular pathways, and clinical and management of newly onset autoimmune conditions related to vaccine uptake.

Guest Editor

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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

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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).