

Special Issue

Emerging Viral Pathogens and Vaccine Access for Vulnerable Populations

Message from the Guest Editor

Newly emerging viral pathogens such as the SARS-COV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 and the most recent Orthopox virus that causes Monkeypox have led to global infections that can be life-threatening, particularly in medically underserved and vulnerable individuals with underlying comorbidities. Approved vaccines are now available for some of these emerging pathogens; however, vaccine hesitancy and resistance have been particularly high among ethnic populations and rural communities due to a history and legacy of racial injustices, social inequities, and negative experiences within a long-standing, culturally insensitive healthcare system. Communities with poor vaccination rates are especially vulnerable, and continual community spread of the emerging pathogen can result in genetic changes that can allow these viral pathogens to be more contagious, cause more severe disease, and evade immune response produced by vaccinations. Therefore, it is essential to provide all communities with education, awareness, and access to safe and effective vaccines.

Guest Editor

Dr. Donald J. Alcendor

Center for AIDS Health Disparities Research, Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Physiology, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN 37208, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 August 2023)



Vaccines

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.4
CiteScore 9.9
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/136470

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 3.4
CiteScore 9.9
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 (Pharmacology (medical))

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).