

Special Issue

New Developments in Polio Vaccine

Message from the Guest Editor

The discovery of two vaccines against poliomyelitis—first the inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) created by Jonas Salk, and soon after the live oral poliovirus vaccine (OPV) by Albert Sabin—was an enormous medical breakthrough of the mid-20th century. Their creation and use established a paradigm for other vaccines. OPV was so successful that in 1988, the World Health Assembly resolved to completely eradicate poliomyelitis by the year 2000. Even though the deadline was not met and polio eradication remains a moving target 35 years later, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative achieved tremendous progress. It also became clear that the current versions of IPV and OPV are not optimal for a post-eradication world. IPV is made from highly virulent virus strains and does not prevent virus transmission. OPV causes rare but serious adverse events and can trigger new outbreaks caused by a vaccine-derived virus. Therefore, finishing the eradication campaign and making its success irreversible requires the development and introduction of a new generation of polio vaccines. This Special Issue is devoted to these ongoing efforts.

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.

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