Special Issue

Innovating Vaccine Research in Mucosal Vaccines

Message from the Guest Editors

Mucosal surfaces like the oral, digestive, nasal, and genital regions serve as the body's initial defense against numerous pathogens. Mucosal vaccines have the potential to induce innate recognition and generate specific tissue-resident T-cell and B-cell secretory antibody responses, capable of preventing infections even at distant mucosal sites and systemically. Though significant strides have been made in understanding mucosal immunity mechanisms and inter-site communication, only a limited number of mucosal vaccines have gained approval for human use. Beyond infectious diseases, mucosal vaccines hold promise in addressing non-infectious conditions like allergies, autoimmune disorders, and certain cancers. However, they face various challenges. Effective mucosal immunization often requires suitable delivery systems and adjuvants to enhance collaboration between innate and adaptive immunity. Many mucosal delivery systems are still experimental, and few adjuvants are licensed for mucosal use. Thus, identifying safe and efficient mucosal delivery strategies and adjuvants is crucial for advancing mucosal vaccine development.

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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.

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