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.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 July 2025)

Vaccines

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.5
CiteScore 7.7
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/197532

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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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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).

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