Rabies Virus: Knowledge Gaps and Challenges to Elimination

Message from the Guest Editors

Globally, rabies is one of the oldest viral zoonoses with descriptions of “hydrophobia” and “rabid dogs” dating back thousands of years. Alongside this, infection with the rabies virus, or any one of the lyssavirus group of viruses, invariably results in death following the onset of clinical disease. As such, rabies remains one of the most feared viral diseases globally. Vaccines to prevent the disease have existed for decades, and the host reservoirs of disease are well established. Regardless, rabies causes more than 59,000 human deaths annually, although this is generally considered to be an underestimate of burden through lack of reporting in endemic areas. Recent global efforts have focused on eliminating the human burden of rabies, with total elimination the target for 2030. This Special Issue focuses on the existing knowledge on all areas of this important pathogen and areas where the current understanding of this zoonotic pathogen are lacking. As such, it aims to both champion efforts to eliminate the pathogen as well as identify areas of the disease that remain poorly understood and where further research may be warranted.
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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

- *Viruses* (ISSN 1999-4915) is an open access journal which provides an advanced forum for studies of viruses. It publishes reviews, regular research papers, communications, conference reports and short notes. Our aim is to encourage scientists to publish their experimental and theoretical results in as much detail as possible. There is no restriction on the length of the papers. The full experimental details must be provided so that the results can be reproduced. We also encourage the publication of timely reviews and commentaries on topics of interest to the virology community and feature highlights from the virology literature in the 'News and Views' section.

Electronic files or software regarding the full details of the calculation and experimental procedure, if unable to be published in a normal way, can be deposited as supplementary material.

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