New Advances on Zika Virus Research

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Zika virus (ZIKV) is a mosquito-borne member of the Flaviviridae family that has been known to cause sporadic outbreaks in Africa and Southeast Asia. Recently, ZIKV has been associated with Guillain-Barre syndrome and microcephaly in the infants of infected mothers, a condition where infants are born with abnormally-small heads. To date, there are no Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-licensed prophylactics (vaccines) or therapeutics (antivirals) available for the treatment of ZIKV disease in humans, which has the potential to affect millions of people worldwide. The significance of ZIKV in human health, together with the limited existing armamentarium to combat ZIKV infection, highlight the importance of developing effective countermeasures to prevent or treat ZIKV infection in humans. In this Special Issue, we will focus on the most recent discoveries in ZIKV research, including the molecular biology of the virus, virus–host interactions, antivirals, and vaccine development.

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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.