Special Issue

The Life Cycle of Human Papillomaviruses

Message from the Guest Editor

Papillomaviruses complete their life cycle at differentiating epithelial sites, and have evolved mechanisms of gene control that allow them to produce infectious particles towards the surface of infected skin.To do this they quietly persist in the epithelial basal cells, where their genome is maintained as a low copy number episome, and where viral gene expression mediates subtle changes in epithelial homeostasis. Virus production in the upper epithelial layers requires regulated changes in viral gene expression. These functions, when deregulated, can drive neoplasia and the development of cancer, which occurs at particular vulnerable body sites, including the oropharynx and the anal and cervical transformation zones. This Special Issue aims to showcase our current understanding of the human papillomavirus life cycle, the regulatory factors that are involved in life cycle control, and the deregulation that may eventually lead to cancer.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. John Doorbar
Department of Pathology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 1QP, UK

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Viruses
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
viruses@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/viruses

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Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Eric O. Freed
HIV Dynamics and Replication Program, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD 21702-1201, USA

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