

Special Issue

Hantavirus

Message from the Guest Editors

Prototype hantavirus was isolated in the 1970s as the causative agent of rodent-borne zoonotic diseases, including hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome (HFRS). Since rodent-borne orthohantaviruses are highly pathogenic to humans, dealing with these viruses remains an important issue. On the other hand, Thottapalayam virus, which was isolated from a shrew in India in the 1950s, was revealed to be a member of the family Hantaviridae. Furthermore, in recent years, hantaviruses have been discovered from shrews, bats, reptiles, and fish. Information on these many novel wildlife-derived hantaviruses of unknown pathogenicity is needed because they can be a cause of a novel pandemic such as the pandemic caused by SARS2 coronavirus. Addressing the challenges of hantaviruses requires a wide range of virological studies related to epidemiology, biology, cell biology, immunology, pharmaceuticals, and numerous academic fields. This Special issue covers a wide range of issues related to hantaviruses and aims to boost the foundation of hantavirus virology.

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