

Special Issue

Influenza B Virus: From Infection to Prevention

Message from the Guest Editor

Influenza A (IAV) and B (IBV) viruses co-circulate yearly during seasonal epidemics. IBV causes about a quarter of all influenza cases in an average season. IAV significantly affects young children and the elderly, while the burden of IBV infections is especially high among school-aged children in terms of incidence, hospitalization, and fatal outcomes, with the underlying pathogenic mechanisms remaining unclear. After non-pharmaceutical interventions that were introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, B/Yamagata lineage viruses have not been detected. Less research has been conducted on IBV than on IAV, as IBV lacks an established animal reservoir and pandemic potential. However, this also means that IBV infections and transmissions could be controlled well by broadly protective vaccines. The objective of this Special Issue is to collect articles that focus on surveillance, advancing knowledge about IBV epidemiology, evolution, antigenicity, pathogenesis, and immunity, as well as suitable animal models for infection, which is critical for the development of seasonal influenza vaccines and novel treatment strategies.

Guest Editor

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