

# Special Issue

## Marek's Disease Virus

### Message from the Guest Editors

Marek's disease virus (MDV) has caused major problems worldwide. It is a highly contagious herpesvirus that causes cancer in poultry species, primarily chickens. It is a member of the *Alphaherpesvirinae* within the *Orthoherpesviridae* family with similar replicative properties to other alphaherpesviruses like HSV and VZV that spread through shedding from epithelial skin cells. However, within the host, its pathogenesis is more similar to gammaherpesviruses with its lymphotropic nature, and like EBV and KSHV, transform lymphocytes inducing cancer. There are still significant gaps in knowledge in understanding the viral and host factors that contribute to virus replication, transformation, and transmission. In addition, information about how homologous vaccines are used to protect chickens from MDV-induced disease and understanding the mechanistic importance these vaccines play are needed to develop new vaccines and antiviral strategies. This Special Issue will focus on articles that provide deeper insights into important aspects of MDV and related MD vaccines, lytic replication, latency, transformation, reactivation, pathogenesis, and immune system interactions.

### Guest Editors

Dr. Keith Jarosinski  
Dr. Nagendraprabhu Ponnuraj  
Dr. Haji Akbar

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (10 March 2025)



## Viruses

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.5  
CiteScore 7.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/si/189664](https://mdpi.com/si/189664)

*Viruses*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[viruses@mdpi.com](mailto:viruses@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/](https://mdpi.com/journal/)

[viruses](https://mdpi.com/journal/viruses)





# Viruses

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 3.5  
CiteScore 7.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/  
viruses](https://mdpi.com/journal/viruses)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

You are invited to contribute a research article or a comprehensive review for consideration and publication in *Viruses* (ISSN 1999-4915). *Viruses* is published in open access format—research articles, reviews and other content are released on the internet immediately after acceptance. The scientific community and the general public have unlimited free access to the content as soon as it is published. As an open access journal, *Viruses* is supported by the authors or their institutes by payment of article processing charges (APC) for accepted papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Eric O. Freed

HIV Dynamics and Replication Program, Center for Cancer Research,  
National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD 21702-1201, USA

---

### Author Benefits

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, Embase, PubAg, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Virology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Virology/Infectious Diseases)

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.6 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).