

Special Issue

New World Encephalitic Alphaviruses

Message from the Guest Editor

New World alphaviruses (Eastern, Western, and Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus) are significant pathogens of veterinary and medical importance in the Americas. These viruses have caused sporadic outbreaks and large epidemics of fatal encephalitis in humans and domesticated animals for more than a century. Due to their ability to cause lethal disease, these viruses have also been identified as potential biothreat agents. Currently, there are no countermeasures to treat or prevent human disease and the public remains vulnerable to natural outbreaks and bioterror event(s). This Special Issue seeks research studies and reviews on broad topics including animal model development, vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, virus evolution, epidemiology, virus emergence, and virulence. The review papers should explore the current state of the field, recent advances, as well as gaps in knowledge.

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