Special Issue

Human Norovirus

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleague, Human norovirus (HuNoV) causes approximately 18% of all gastroenteritis cases in all ages and is recognized as the leading cause of gastroenteritis outbreaks around the world. While the prevalence of HuNoV disease seems to be similar across the continents, an overwhelming majority of HuNoV-associated deaths occur in WHO-defined developing countries. HuNoV disease also has a significant economic impact, with an estimated global economic burden of USD 60.3 billion dollars per year, including health care costs and productivity loses. Concerted efforts to control HuNoV disease face major challenges, including: the genetic diversity of virus and ongoing evolution, strain-restrictive culture systems with low efficiency, and the limited knowledge of host factors that play a role in HuNoV infection, and protective immunity against HuNoV. The periodical emergence of novel HuNoV strains leading to global pandemics is also a major concern. The vast genetic diversity of HuNoV imposes a hurdle for the development of a vaccine that can provide broad coverage across all strains.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Viruses (ISSN 1999-4915) is an open access journal which provides an advanced forum for studies of viruses. It publishes reviews, regular research papers, communications, conference reports and short notes. Our aim is to encourage scientists to publish their experimental and theoretical results in as much detail as possible. There is no restriction on the length of the papers. The full experimental details must be provided so that the results can be reproduced. We also encourage the publication of timely reviews and commentaries on topics of interest to the virology community and feature highlights from the virology literature in the 'News and Views' section.

Electronic files or software regarding the full details of the calculation and experimental procedure, if unable to be published in a normal way, can be deposited as supplementary material.

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