

Special Issue

Smallpox and Emerging Zoonotic Orthopoxviruses: What Is Coming Next?

Message from the Guest Editors

Forty years ago, the last known natural case of smallpox was reported in Somalia. Subsequently, in 1980, the World Health Assembly declared smallpox eradicated. However, after smallpox eradication, vaccination campaigns gradually ceased creating a growing population of persons now susceptible to infection by poxviruses previously covered by the smallpox vaccine. Coincidentally or not, in the last decades an increasing number of cases involving these zoonotic OPVs has been described. This has raised concerns not only with regard to the (re-) emergence of OPVs, but also about the intentional use of especially variola virus in bioterrorism attacks. In this Special Issue, we welcome the poxvirus community to submit research papers or review articles related to all aspects of orthopoxvirus research. Phylogenetic and epidemiological studies are welcome, as well as papers covering topics like bioterrorism, medical countermeasures and studies of basic and host–virus relationships.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

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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