



animals



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Infectious Diseases and Zoonoses of Wild Marine Animals

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Message from the Guest Editor

Over the past few decades, there has been a global increase in reports of diseases affecting marine organisms of diverse taxa. Climate change is an additional pressure on marine ecosystems. Dolphins, sea turtles, sharks and many other marine animals are all susceptible to infectious diseases and some of these pathogens can transmit diseases to humans. Marine zoonoses represent a public health problem. Numerous pathogens and many different transmission modes are involved, and many factors influence the epidemiology of the disease transmission. Outbreaks of infectious diseases in marine fish farms are often related to management factors, such as the pollution levels of the water, introducing non-naïve fish to the farms and high stocking density of animals, which can increase pathogens loads in the fish and as a result, the fish are more likely to transmit infection to humans. Surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, research, training and education are key elements in combating the upsurge of infectious agents and zoonoses in and from the sea.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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