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Microbiome and Lung Disease: Not So Sterile Anymore!

Guest Editor:

Dr. Taylor Cohen
AstraZeneca, Cambridge, UK

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Our understanding of microbial–host interactions, especially in the airway, has evolved significantly over the last ten to fifteen years. We now understand that the lung is not the sterile environment it was originally thought to be. A complex interaction between resident, not just transient, microbes including bacteria, viruses and fungi helps in shaping respiratory function and immune tone. This respiratory microbiome contributes to defense against pathogenic microbes, supports the function of the epithelial barrier and can influence the function of innate and adaptive immune cells. Increasingly, modifications to the airway microbiome have been linked to the development of allergic airway diseases, chronic and frequent exacerbations and rapid decline of lung function.

Keywords: microbiome; respiratory disease; immunology; metabolome

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Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Nico Jehmlich
Department of Molecular Systems Biology, UFZ-Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, 04318 Leipzig, Germany

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

"Microorganism" merges the idea of the very small with the idea of the evolving reproducing organism is a unifying principle for the discipline of microbiology. Our journal recognizes the broadly diverse yet connected nature of microorganisms and provides an advanced publishing forum for original articles from scientists involved in high-quality basic and applied research on any prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganism, and for research on the ecology, genomics and evolution of microbial communities as well as that exploring cultured microorganisms in the laboratory.

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Contact Us

Microorganisms Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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