



Foot-and-Mouth Disease Virus: Pathogenesis and Persistence

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) remains a serious global threat to animal husbandry and free trade in animal products. Inactivated vaccines are being used successfully in the control of FMD in many parts of the world, but they have several well-known issues. Their production requires biological containment measures that are logistically challenging and cost-intensive, while their protective efficacy is often narrow and of short duration. In addition, these vaccines do not reliably protect against primary virus replication and persistent infection.

A better understanding of the function of viral factors in FMD pathogenesis can pave the way for the development and validation of stably attenuated viruses that may be used as live vaccines, potentially overcoming some of the disadvantages of inactivated formulations.

To this end, this Special Issue invites all submissions related to the pathogenesis of acute and persistent FMDV infection, with particular regard to virus attenuation by targeted alterations of the viral genome.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The worldwide impact of infectious disease is incalculable. The consequences for human health in terms of morbidity and mortality are obvious and vast but, when infections of animals and plants are also taken into account, it is hard to imagine any other disease that has such a significant impact on our lives—on healthcare systems, on agriculture and on world economics. *Pathogens* is proud to continue to serve the international community by publishing high quality studies that further our understanding of infection and have meaningful consequences for disease intervention.

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