

Special Issue

Marek's Disease Virus

Message from the Guest Editors

Marek's disease virus (MDV) has caused major problems worldwide. It is a highly contagious herpesvirus that causes cancer in poultry species, primarily chickens. It is a member of the *Alphaherpesvirinae* within the *Orthoherpesviridae* family with similar replicative properties to other alphaherpesviruses like HSV and VZV that spread through shedding from epithelial skin cells. However, within the host, its pathogenesis is more similar to gammaherpesviruses with its lymphotropic nature, and like EBV and KSHV, transform lymphocytes inducing cancer. There are still significant gaps in knowledge in understanding the viral and host factors that contribute to virus replication, transformation, and transmission. In addition, information about how homologous vaccines are used to protect chickens from MDV-induced disease and understanding the mechanistic importance these vaccines play are needed to develop new vaccines and antiviral strategies. This Special Issue will focus on articles that provide deeper insights into important aspects of MDV and related MD vaccines, lytic replication, latency, transformation, reactivation, pathogenesis, and immune system interactions.

Guest Editors

Dr. Keith Jarosinski

Dr. Nagendraprabhu Ponnuraj

Dr. Haji Akbar

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Viruses
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
viruses@mdpi.com

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Eric O. Freed

HIV Dynamics and Replication Program, Center for Cancer Research,
National Cancer Institute, Frederick, MD 21702-1201, USA

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