

Special Issue

Bats and Coronaviruses

Message from the Guest Editors

During the past two decades, three high pathogenic coronaviruses have been identified as the causal agents of large-scale disease outbreaks—SARS-CoV-1, MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2—that have claimed tens of thousands of human lives. One of the shared characters between these three viruses is that they all probably originated in bats, which firmly establishes that bats are an important source of highly lethal zoonotic viruses. Thus, it is highly likely that future SARS-like coronavirus outbreaks will originate from bats. While it is almost impossible to predict or prevent the next coronavirus outbreak, we believe that active surveillance is the best we can do at the present time to provide early warnings and, in turn, minimize the impact of such future outbreaks. In this regard, global efforts on the discovery and active surveillance of bat coronaviruses, and on understanding of the relationship between bats and coronaviruses are urgently needed. This is also within the scope of this Special Issue “Bats and Coronaviruses”. *Co-*

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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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