



Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship during the COVID-19 Era

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Message from the Guest Editors

It is well known that the spread of antimicrobial resistance represents one of the most important threats for public health, and the correct use of antibiotics is essential to limit the selection of resistant strains. Several authorities and scientific societies have therefore recommended the implementation of programs to increase the appropriateness of antimicrobial prescriptions. Unfortunately, the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic led to an interruption or limitation of antimicrobial stewardship programs in many settings, mostly due to a reduced availability of dedicated staff and resources.

This Special Issue of *Antibiotics* seeks the submission of manuscripts aiming to increase our knowledge regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the antibiotic prescription behavior of physicians (both in COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patients), as well as the changes that have occurred during the pandemic in the stewardship strategies and their consequences on the antimicrobial resistance patterns both in hospital and outpatient settings.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

There are very few fields that attract as much attention as scientific endeavor related to antibiotic discovery, use and preservation. The public, patients, scientists, clinicians, policy-makers, NGOs, governments, and supra-governmental organizations are all focusing intensively on it: all are concerned that we use our existing agents more effectively, and develop and evaluate new interventions in time to face emerging challenges for the benefit of present and future generations. We need every discipline to contribute and collaborate: molecular, microbiological, clinical, epidemiological, geographic, economic, social scientific and policy disciples are all key. *Antibiotics* is a nimble, inclusive and rigorous indexed journal as an enabling platform for all who can contribute to solving the greatest broad concerns of the modern world.

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