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Immunity and Pathogenesis of Epstein-Barr Virus Infection

Guest Editor:

Dr. Jonathan Kerr

Department of Microbiology, Norfolk & Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Norwich, UK

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Epstein–Barr virus (EBV) is a ubiquitous human virus which infects almost all humans during their lifetime and following the acute phase, persists for the remainder of the life of the individual. EBV infects B lymphocytes leading to their immortalisation, with persistence of the EBV genome as an episome. In the latent phase, EBV is prevented from reactivating through efficient cellular immunity. EBV reactivates (lytic phase) under conditions of psychological stress with consequent weakening of cellular immunity. EBV has been linked to development of many cancers and autoimmune diseases, through various mechanisms. This Special Issue will bring together topical aspects relating to EBV infection and its pathogenesis in autoimmune disease and cancer.

Dr. Jonathan Kerr













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