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Toxoplasma gondii in Animals

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Message from the Guest Editors

Toxoplasmosis is a zoonotic disease that qualifies as a One Health disease, and it is produced by a coccidian parasite from the Sarcocystidae family, *Toxoplasma gondii*. All warm-blooded animals, including humans and birds, are involved in the life cycle of the parasite. *T. gondii* represents a significant public health problem worldwide. In addition to congenital transmission, *T. gondii* may cause severe clinical symptoms in immune-compromised humans. It is estimated that up to one third of the human population worldwide is *T. gondii*-seropositive. Domestic livestock, wild animals, poultry and wild birds represent an important source of human food, but they may also represent a significant source of zoonotic parasites. Consumption of *T. gondii*-infected undercooked meat can be a potential risk for human and animal contamination.

This Special Issue aims to bring together original papers and reviews on the latest findings on *Toxoplasma gondii* in various species of domestic and wild animals: immunology, epidemiology, molecular genetics, the phylogenetic evolution of the parasite.



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Special Issue



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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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