



Parasitic Helminths: Drug Resistance, Control and Immune Evasion

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Message from the Guest Editors

Parasite helminths are globally distributed and highly prevalent metazoan pathogens, with billions of individuals infected worldwide with diseases such as schistosomiasis or lymphatic filariasis. They are also responsible for important veterinary diseases such as gastrointestinal helminthiasis and dirofilariasis, respectively, in livestock and companion animals, leading to significant economic losses. Treatment and control of helminthiasis are limited and rely on a few anthelmintic classes for which mass drug administration has already led to widespread drug resistance in nematodes, and threats extend to trematodes and cestodes. In this context, understanding the essential physiological and developmental processes of helminth biology is crucial to the identification of novel means to control these parasites.

Unravelling the molecular mechanisms and cellular pathways by which the parasites either evade the host immune system or survive drug pressure could provide new strategies to combat helminthiasis. I invite colleagues investigating any of these mechanisms in helminths to submit their manuscripts to this Special Issue in the form of original research and reviews.





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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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