



The Advanced Research on *Bacillus Anthracis*

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Anthrax, caused by *Bacillus anthracis*, is a severe zoonosis having a great impact on both human and animal health. It is a worldwide zoonosis to which most animals, especially grazing herbivores, are susceptible. In natural conditions, human infections (predominantly cutaneous) usually result from contact with infected animals or contaminated animal products, such as hides or wool. Cases of inhalation anthrax (wool sorter's disease) have occurred in enclosed factory spaces where large-scale processing of hides and wool took place. The ability of the anthrax spore to produce disease by the respiratory route is not high. Inhaled spores of $>5\ \mu\text{m}$ pose no threat because they are cleared from the lung by the mucociliary escalator system.

In addition, it is still necessary to prepare and upgrade the new methods for treatment and diagnosis in view of the history of the use of the spores as biological weapons. This Special Issue offers the opportunity to share recent advances in the study of *Bacillus anthracis*. All reports on anthrax research from a new perspective are welcome and would be referred for peer review.





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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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