



Neonatal and Pediatric Infections and Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Carlo Giaquinto

Division of Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Department of Women's and Children's Health, University-Hospital of Padua, Via Giustiniani 3, 35128 Padua, Italy

Dr. Daniele Donà

Department of Woman's and Child's Health, Division of Paediatric Infectious Diseases, University of Padova, 35141 via Giustiniani 3, Padua, Italy

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

During the past two decades, the emergence of resistant pathogens and their global spread has rapidly become a major threat to public health around the world. This is particularly relevant due to the steady reduction in the number of new antimicrobials that are being studied and marketed, particularly for children. Although antimicrobial resistance occurs naturally, antimicrobial misuse promotes the selection of resistant organisms. Antibiotics remain the most commonly used medicines, especially in the pediatric population. The antimicrobial stewardship concept was introduced to tackle this problem. Antimicrobial stewardship programs are defined as a set of coordinated interventions designed to improve antimicrobial use in terms of selecting the appropriate agent, dose, route of administration, and therapy duration, without compromising patient outcomes.

This Special Issue is intended to provide a comprehensive discussion of the antimicrobial stewardship in neonates and children in hospital and community settings. The strategies for pediatric antimicrobial stewardship programs and specific stewardship initiatives will be discussed.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lawrence S. Young

Warwick Medical School,
University of Warwick, Coventry
CV4 7AL, UK

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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Pathogens Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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