



New Challenges for Natural and Vaccine-Induced Immunity against HBV Infection

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Message from the Guest Editors

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The availability of an effective vaccine against hepatitis B infection has produced a strong decline in the number of new cases of HBV-related hepatitis worldwide.

It is worth noting that, despite the overall high efficacy of anti-HBV vaccination, a non-negligible (but not well-defined) ratio of persons are “non-responders” to the vaccine, failing to achieve a protective concentration of antibodies able to prevent HBV infection.

Another potential pitfall of HBV vaccination, and more generally of immune control of HBV, is related to the circulation of viral strains, carrying mutations in the surface antigen (HBsAg), that have been demonstrated to alter the affinity of antibodies, both naturally produced by the immune system and induced by vaccination.

For this Special Issue, we welcome all original research papers, reviews, clinical cases, and methodological novelties able to shed new light on the immune response to HBV infection, including that induced by anti-HBV vaccination, and on the role of HBV genetic variability in modifying the ability of the immune system and vaccination to prevent/control HBV infection.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Vaccines (ISSN 2076-393X) has had a 6-year history of publishing peer-reviewed state of the art research that advances the knowledge of immunology in human disease protection. Immunotherapeutics, prophylactic vaccines, immunomodulators, adjuvants and the global differences in regulatory affairs are some of the highlights of the research published that have shaped global health. Our open access policy allows all researchers and interested parties to immediately scrutinize the rigorous evidence our publications have to offer. We are proud to present the work and perspectives of many to contribute to future decisions concerning human health.

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