



Human Norovirus

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleague,

Human norovirus (HuNoV) causes approximately 18% of all gastroenteritis cases in all ages and is recognized as the leading cause of gastroenteritis outbreaks around the world. While the prevalence of HuNoV disease seems to be similar across the continents, an overwhelming majority of HuNoV-associated deaths occur in WHO-defined developing countries. HuNoV disease also has a significant economic impact, with an estimated global economic burden of USD 60.3 billion dollars per year, including health care costs and productivity losses.

Concerted efforts to control HuNoV disease face major challenges, including: the genetic diversity of virus and ongoing evolution, strain-restrictive culture systems with low efficiency, and the limited knowledge of host factors that play a role in HuNoV infection, and protective immunity against HuNoV. The periodical emergence of novel HuNoV strains leading to global pandemics is also a major concern. The vast genetic diversity of HuNoV imposes a hurdle for the development of a vaccine that can provide broad coverage across all strains.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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