



# VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGY

An International Journal

## AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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### DESCRIPTION

*Veterinary Microbiology* is concerned with **microbial** (bacterial, fungal, viral) **diseases** of **domesticated vertebrate animals** (livestock, companion animals, fur-bearing animals, game, poultry, but excluding fish) that supply food, other useful products or companionship. In addition, Microbial diseases of **wild animals** living in captivity, or as members of the feral fauna will also be considered if the infections are of interest because of their interrelation with humans (zoonoses) and/or domestic animals. **Studies of antimicrobial resistance are also included, provided that the results represent a substantial advance in knowledge. Authors are strongly encouraged to read - prior to submission - the Editorials ('Scope or cope' and 'Scope or cope II') published previously in the journal.** The Editors reserve the right to suggest submission to another journal for those papers which they feel would be more appropriate for consideration by that journal.

Original research papers of high quality and novelty on aspects of control, host response, molecular biology, pathogenesis, prevention, and treatment of microbial diseases of animals are published. Papers dealing primarily with immunology, epidemiology, molecular biology and antiviral or microbial agents will only be considered if they demonstrate a clear impact on a disease. Papers focusing solely on diagnostic techniques (such as another PCR protocol or ELISA) will not be published - focus should be on a microorganism and not on a particular technique. Papers only reporting microbial sequences, metagenomics data, transcriptomics data, or proteomics data will not be considered unless the results represent a substantial advance in knowledge related to microbial disease.

Drug trial papers will be considered if they have general application or significance. Papers on the identification of microorganisms will also be considered, but detailed taxonomic studies do not fall within the scope of the journal. **Case reports will not be published, unless they have general application or contain novel aspects.** Papers of geographically limited interest, which repeat what had been established elsewhere will not be considered. The readership of the journal is global.

Papers will be rejected if standards of care of, or procedures performed on animals are not up to those expected of humane veterinary scientists. At a minimum, standards must meet the International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals, as issued by the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences. (C.I.O.M.S., c/o WHO, CH 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

## AUDIENCE

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Research Workers and Practitioners in veterinary medicine, Animal Health Investigators and others with a special interest in microbiology.

## IMPACT FACTOR

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## ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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### *Types of paper*

1. Original research papers (Research Papers)
2. Review articles (Review Papers)
3. Short communications
4. Letters to the Editor

Original research papers should report the results of original research. The material must not have been previously published elsewhere. Articles must be as concise as possible, commensurate with reporting and discussing the research presented. As a general rule they should not occupy more than 12 printed journal pages, including figures, tables and references (about 30 manuscript pages, Times New Roman 12 pt, double-spaced, minimum 2 cm margins). Introduction should not exceed 2 manuscript pages. Discussion should not exceed 4 manuscript pages and the number of references should be limited to 35.

Review articles should cover subjects falling within the scope of the journal. Of particular interest are topical, short (mini) reviews in areas of current interest.

Reviews of topics in veterinary bacteriology, mycology and virology should provide short, readable, well-referenced, up-to-date overviews of current, emerging, or neglected subjects in the discipline. Syntheses of information from diverse sources, providing clarification of areas of confusion or uncertainty, are especially desirable. It is anticipated that these reviews will provide overviews of important topics to the benefit of "curious-but-busy" readers of *Veterinary Microbiology*.

Reviews should carry titles which are creative and provocative, but nonetheless descriptive, and emphasize current status and future directions of research. Historical vignettes are useful in setting the stage for addressing important contemporary questions, but should not ordinarily be the basis for an article. Manuscripts may include controversial views, if presented in a balanced fashion and supported by evidence; informed speculation is welcome.

Before submitting a review, authors must first contact one of the Editors with an outline of a proposed review: Ben Adler (ben.adler@monash.edu) or Stefan Schwarz (stefan.schwarz@fu-berlin.de) for bacteriological reviews, and Veronika von Messling (Veronika.vonMessling@pei.de) or X.J. Meng (xjmeng@vt.edu) for those on virology. It is expected that authors submitting reviews are experts in the field. This must be supported by a strong track record of publications in the area of the proposed review. The main text of a review article should be about 15 pages of double-spaced type, supported by illustrative material and references. Figures are welcome, but review articles should normally not have more than 50 references. Manuscripts should be submitted through the EVISE electronic submission system, using the article type 'Review Paper'.

Manuscripts will be processed through the normal *Veterinary Microbiology* review procedure, with the final decision made by the appropriate Editor.

Short communications should report the results of original research. The material must not have been previously published elsewhere. As a general rule they should not occupy more than 6 printed journal pages, including figures, tables and references (about 15 manuscript pages, Times New Roman 12 pt, double-spaced, minimum 2 cm margins). Introduction should not exceed 1 manuscript page. Discussion should not exceed 3 manuscript pages and the number of references should be limited to 25.

Letters to the Editor offering comment or useful critique on material published in the journal are welcomed. The decision to publish submitted letters rests purely with the Editor-in-Chief. It is hoped that the publication of such letters will permit an exchange of views which will be of benefit to both the journal and its readers.

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You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

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- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- A competing interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

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## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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Please see our information pages on [Ethics in publishing](#) and [Ethical guidelines for journal publication](#).

### *Ethics in animal experimentation*

Circumstances relating to animal experimentation must meet the International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals as issued by the Council for the International Organizations of Medical Sciences. They are obtainable from: Executive Secretary C.I.O.M.S., c/o WHO, Via Appia, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, or at the following URL: [http://www.cioms.ch/publications/guidelines/1985\\_texts\\_of\\_guidelines.htm](http://www.cioms.ch/publications/guidelines/1985_texts_of_guidelines.htm). Unnecessary cruelty in animal experimentation is not acceptable to the Editors of Veterinary Microbiology.

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Any new nucleotide or amino acid sequence data should be deposited in publicly accessible databases, such as GenBank, and the accession numbers should be included in the manuscript (Methods section) before it is finally accepted for publication. In addition, it is expected that any plasmids, transposons, viruses, microbial strains, or cell lines described for the first time in the paper will be made available to scientists for non-commercial purposes at reasonable cost following publication.

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This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then generally sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. [More information on types of peer review.](#)

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If no funding has been provided for the research, please include the following sentence:

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2. All biotica (crops, plants, insects, birds, mammals, etc.) should be identified by their scientific names when the English term is first used, with the exception of common domestic animals.

3. All biocides and other organic compounds must be identified by their Geneva names when first used in the text. Active ingredients of all formulations should be likewise identified.
4. For chemical nomenclature, the conventions of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and the official recommendations of the IUPAC-IUB Combined Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature should be followed.

### Formulae

1. Give the meaning of all symbols immediately after the equation in which they are first used.
2. For simple fractions use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line.
3. Equations should be numbered serially at the right-hand side in parentheses. In general only equations explicitly referred to in the text need be numbered.
4. The use of fractional powers instead of root signs is recommended. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp.
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6. Isotope numbers should precede the symbols, e.g. <sup>18</sup>O.
7. The repeated writing of chemical formulae in the text is to be avoided where reasonably possible; instead, the name of the compound should be given in full. Exceptions may be made in the case of a very long name occurring very frequently or in the case of a compound being described as the end product of a gravimetric determination (e.g. phosphate as P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>).

### Footnotes

Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors can build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Otherwise, please indicate the position of footnotes in the text and list the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

1. Footnotes should only be used if absolutely essential. In most cases it should be possible to incorporate the information in normal text.
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- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

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2. Illustrations should be numbered according to their sequence in the text. References should be made in the text to each illustration.
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6. Explanations should be given in the figure legend(s). Drawn text in the illustrations should be kept to a minimum.
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