



BioMed Research International

Special Issue on
**Influences of Environmental Contaminants on
Microorganisms**

CALL FOR PAPERS

Dioxins, polychlorinated biphenyls, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, flame retardants, and other POPs, heavy metals, arsenic, and residues such as azole pesticides and antimicrobial residues are widespread in environment. Humans and animals are generally exposed to many of these contaminants through their presence in food, drinking water, soil, dust, smoke, and air. These environmental agents exert a broad range of biological effects, both in humans and in animals, like cancer, cancer promotion, endocrine disruption, neurotoxicity, skin problems, and reproductive toxicity.

It is known that POPs and heavy metals may provoke suppressed immune responses and decreased host resistance to infectious agents. Generally, microorganisms adapt to changes in the surrounding environment, leading to the theory that the rising amounts of chemicals polluting the environment may affect the virulence of microorganisms and/or the susceptibility to infections among both humans and animals. There is a growing concept that maternal and early-life exposures to common environmental contaminants have also a critical impact on susceptibility to infection and/or to cancer later in life. In addition, ecotoxicological data provide evidences concerning some antimicrobial residues as emerging contaminants. These compounds are known to be present in different environmental matrices at potentially hazardous concentrations for the aquatic environment. Scientific research on these aspects has a wide range of applications in both human and animal health.

Hence, we invite authors to submit original research and systematic review articles aimed at defining the influence of environmental contaminants on pathogenic microorganisms. Furthermore, we are interested in works that explore the effects of environmental contaminants on immune response in human and animal models. In addition, epidemiological studies describing the influence of environmental contaminants on infectious diseases or on cancer may be useful to analyze their presence in tissues and food.

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/bmri/toxicology/iec/>.

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