

Special Issue on
**Current and Emerging Antihepatitis C Treatment
Strategies: Hope or Hype**

CALL FOR PAPERS

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection and associated hepatic comorbidities are still challenging, and disease burden remains significant around the world. The propagation of acute hepatitis C into chronic illness involves an intricate interplay between viral and host factors and ultimately leads to end-stage liver disease with complications like hepatic cirrhosis, fibrosis, hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), variceal hemorrhage, and hepatic encephalopathy. The treatment paradigms have been revolutionized after the development and approval of interferon-free direct-acting antivirals achieving higher sustained virologic response rates in treated individuals. Some investigational treatment options with pangenotypic coverage are also in the final stage of development, and some different antivirals with an alternative mechanism of action such as by inhibiting viral entry or cell-to-cell spread and some anti-mRNA based strategies like microRNAs are also in the pipeline.

Although the new treatment horizons are promising to cure hepatitis C, challenges and unmet clinical needs persist in real-world settings to resolve while establishing global strategies for the eradication of hepatitis C. Therapy costs and treatment access in developing countries, emergence of resistance associated variants and treatment failure, treatment induced severe adverse events, lack of effective antiviral screening, and an ideal disease burden simulation model are some potential challenges in this prospect.

We expect short communication and original articles focused on novel findings in hepatitis C genome diversity and molecular epidemiology of the infection, clinical studies highlighting the real-world effectiveness of approved regimens, and some investigational approaches to identify unique biomarkers for hepatitis C diagnosis and/or therapeutic targets.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Mapping host-virus networks in HCV disease progression: target identification for intervention
- ▶ HCV infection biology and viral-host interactions in hepatitis C disease
- ▶ Virus-host system networks mapping in HCV disease progression
- ▶ HCV replication and immune responses in HIV coinfection
- ▶ Natural phenotypic diversity of HCV NS3/4a protease
- ▶ Cell signaling pathways in hepatic cirrhosis, fibrosis, and HCC
- ▶ Real-world use, effectiveness, and safety of interferon-free regimens in different HCV genotype infected patients
- ▶ Resistance associated variants: prevalence and role in HCV treatment failure
- ▶ Strategies in hepatitis C diagnosis at the point of care
- ▶ Investigational antihepatitis C treatment regimens and their clinical impact

Authors can submit their manuscripts through the Manuscript Tracking System at <https://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/cjgh/hepatology/ceah/>.

Papers are published upon acceptance, regardless of the Special Issue publication date.

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