

Special Issue on **Inflammation, Inflammatory Biomarkers, and Immune Activation in HIV, HBV, and HCV Monoinfected or Coinfected Patients: Current Knowledge and Future Perspectives**

CALL FOR PAPERS

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), *Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)*, and *Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)*, alone or together, are causes of severe chronic diseases characterized by high levels of morbidity. The introduction of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) and new generation antihepatitis drugs has dramatically reduced the morbidity and mortality related with AIDS and viral hepatitis.

Despite the positive effects of new antiviral therapies, inflammation continues to play a critical role in pathogenesis and progression of these infections, and, therefore, in patient's survival. For example, although patients treated with HAART demonstrate decreased levels of inflammation, chronic immune activation is not completely extinguished by the antiretroviral therapy and may lead to long-term negative consequences such as non-AIDS-related conditions, especially end-stage liver disease, cardiovascular disease, and malignancies.

Considering the pivotal role that chronic inflammation and uncontrolled systemic immune activation play in HIV, HBV, and HCV pathogenesis and progression, the understanding of the host immune response to these viruses could be an angular stone to fight these viral infections (or coinfections) and to develop new effective therapeutic strategies.

We invite authors to submit original research papers that seek to define the interaction between HIV, HBV, and HCV viruses and their products and the host immune system. Unsolicited review papers will also be analyzed. We are interested in articles that explore aspects of inflammation and immune activation related to these viral infections and immunity against virus infections in humans, animal models, and *ex vivo/in vitro* systems.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Identification of mechanisms employed by these viruses to induce inflammation and immune activation
- ▶ Identification of mechanisms employed by viruses to escape the immune response
- ▶ New cellular and animal model in the study of host-viral interactions and their corresponding immune responses
- ▶ New biomarkers that help identify and follow up these viral infection, protective or pathogenic immune response, and clinical outcomes of viral infection
- ▶ Anti-inflammatory agents and strategies as novel approaches in the treatment of these viral infections
- ▶ Drug-immunotherapy combinations to treat these viral infections

Authors can submit their manuscripts through the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/mi/imid/>.

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