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Editorial Note

Challenges and Opportunities in Diagnosis and Management of Infectious Diseases in Developing Country Healthcare System

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The special issue related to infectious diseases in developing country healthcare system highlights the challenges and opportunities faced in diagnosis and management of infectious diseases.

The resurgence of infectious diseases consequent to the advent of HIV-AIDS pandemic and growing immunocompromised populace forms a major threat to the success of modern diagnostic and therapeutic procedures including advanced surgeries, organ transplants and immunotherapy, which are pillared on antimicrobial therapy.

The rising incidence of infectious diseases across the triad of susceptible hosts, transmission in healthcare facilities and antimicrobial resistance has emerged as a menace worldwide. While multidrug resistant pathogens leave fewer choices, panresistant pathogens leave no suitable weaponry in the entire armamentarium of available antimicrobials to combat infections. Emerging opportunistic healthcare associated pathogens mandate ongoing surveillance, high index of suspicion, and appropriate treatment. Diagnostic challenges at ensuring quality testing and service delivery exist as a progressive continuum. Developing countries are facing the brunt in epidemic proportions due to huge population, strained public health infrastructure and limited resource allocation to healthcare.

The increasing technical and administrative complexities in infectious diseases necessitate concept development and propagation, amalgamating threat identification, strategy formulation, policy initiatives and surveillance to start with, followed by capacity building action plan involving infrastructural enhancement, expertise development, infection control practices, antimicrobial stewardship, patient education and industrial vigilance for antimicrobial usage, and finally ensuring preparedness against outbreaks, epidemics and bioweapons.

Resolute conviction towards astute measures with a sustained momentum can boost patient care and confidence in healthcare systems for safeguarding health of future generations.

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