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Cover image

This artistic image inspired ‘Beta’ is formed from entwined transmission stages (cercariae) of parasites from the Schistosoma genus. The ‘transmission coefficient’ $\beta$ was chosen to represent this theme issue because of its widespread and longstanding use in both micro- and macro-parasite infection models. (Cover image kindly designed by Dr Rhys Jones, Cardiff University, School of Biosciences.)

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