



children



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Integrated Multidisciplinary Care for Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Supporting Disease and Psychosocial Outcomes

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a chronic and relapsing disease affecting a growing number of children in the United States. Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC) are the two most common forms of IBD, both causing chronic inflammation to the gastrointestinal tract. Research has shown an intimate connection between the brain and the gut. Psychosocial factors are strong predictors of negative health outcomes in pediatric IBD, such as risk of relapse, disease activity, nonadherence, healthcare utilization, and higher healthcare costs. Children with IBD are also at an increased risk of emotional/behavioral challenges and poorer quality of life compared to other youth with chronic health conditions, and these challenges have shown strong links to health outcomes. An integrated multidisciplinary care model for the treatment of pediatric IBD is increasingly common and deemed essential for optimal care. This Special Issue is dedicated to describing the evidence for, and application of, integrated biopsychosocial IBD care. This Special Issue will accept original research and reviews.



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Special Issue