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## Persistent Childhood Asthma

Guest Editors:

**Dr. Ann-Marie Malby Schoos**

COPSAC, Copenhagen  
Prospective Studies on Asthma in  
Childhood, Herlev and Gentofte  
Hospital, University of  
Copenhagen, Ledreborg Alle 34,  
2820 Gentofte, Denmark

**Dr. Cilla Söderhäll**

Department of Women's and  
Children's Health, Karolinska  
Institutet, 171 77 Stockholm,  
Sweden

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Asthma is the most common chronic disease in children and the cause of great distress for both the children and their families. Various overlapping phenotypes exist, complicating aligned research in the field and meaningful, personalized treatment of the disease. Young children are particularly diverse with numerous and variable phenotypic presentations in early life that correspond to different outcomes. Despite the high reported rates of remission of asthma, the disease is usually considered as treatable but not curable once present. Understanding of the determinants that affect the course of diagnosed asthma, e.g., the avoidance of environmental or occupational exposures, is therefore important for tertiary prevention, since asthma persistence is associated with frequent and severe symptoms and with the development of impaired lung function. Asthma treatment guidelines have proven useful in standard care and the reduction of adverse outcomes in patients with asthma; however, the phenotypic heterogeneity within the disorder indicates the need for personalized medicine as opposed to a one-size-fits-all treatment approach.



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## Editor-in-Chief

### **Prof. Dr. Paul R. Carney**

Departments of Child Health and Neurology, University of Missouri, 400 Keene Street, Columbia, MO 65211, USA

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*Children* Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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