Special Issue

Prevention and Detection of Pediatric Genetic Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Pediatric genetic diseases refer to conditions that are caused by genetic factors and affect children from birth or early childhood. These disorders, such as cystic fibrosis, sickle cell anemia, and autism spectrum disorder, can lead to life-limiting outcomes or lifelong care. While 1 in 20 children is affected by a rare genetic disorder, many conditions lack effective early detection methods. Current screening tests are limited, with many rare or complex diseases not included in standard newborn panels, and the genetic biomarkers for early diagnosis remain underexplored. There is also a scarcity of universal tests due to genetic heterogeneity and the complexity of multifactorial diseases. Newborn screening and prenatal tests such as NIPT are essential but are limited by their lack of sensitivity and specificity. Advanced genetic testing techniques such as WES and WGS offer promise but face challenges regarding their accessibility and data interpretation. Research is therefore needed to develop more effective screening biomarkers, enhance access to testing, and advance personalized therapies.

Guest Editor

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Editor-in-Chief

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