



## Promoting Mental Health and Wellbeing in Chronic Illness Using Art

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### Message from the Collection Editors

This special issue of *Healthcare* will focus on the use of the arts to promote mental health and wellbeing among people with chronic illnesses. The use of the arts in healthcare is a growing area of research, with epidemiological evidence suggesting that engagement with the arts can have a sustained positive impact across one's lifespan. Evaluations of arts-based interventions in a variety of settings have highlighted the beneficial impact the arts can have on mental health outcomes, including reducing symptoms of anxiety and depression, and increasing mental wellbeing. However, the new field of the arts in health research has typically focused on the use of the arts in general or in psychiatric populations, with little research exploring how the arts can address aspects of mental health impacted by living with a chronic physical illness.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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