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## Mental Health in Times of Pandemic: Protective and Risk Factors

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### Message from the Guest Editors

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is having serious consequences for the health of individuals. Worldwide, millions of people have died, and the number of victims is expected to increase. The pandemic has brought about numerous changes in life which are likely to have substantive implications on mental health, such as: social distancing, the restrictions to individual freedom, the fear of a still relatively unknown virus, the economic crisis due to the pandemic, and the loss of loved ones are factors likely to differently affect the mental health of all individuals.

In this Special Issue, we aim to fill the research gap regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health. Therefore, we welcome articles, reviews, and commentaries that will shed a light on:

- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the mental health of individuals in different sociodemographic groups;
- The identification of risk and protective factors that put individuals at more vs. less at risk for mental health problems during the pandemic period;
- Effective intervention strategies to prevent the negative psychological effects of the pandemic for all or for different sociodemographic groups.



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# Special Issue