

## Special Issue

# Opioids and Chronic Pain: Navigating Treatment, Policy, and Patient Outcomes in Global Healthcare Systems

### Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue welcomes research that explores **the complexities of opioid use in chronic pain management across different countries and healthcare systems**, focusing on the following topics:

- **Clinical Practices and Patient Outcomes**
  - Long-term effects of opioid therapy on pain, function, and quality of life.
  - The comparative effectiveness of opioid vs. non-opioid treatments for chronic pain.
  - The impact of opioid tapering and discontinuation on patient well-being.
  - Patient experiences and perspectives on opioid therapy and alternatives.
- **Healthcare Systems and Policy Implications**
  - How different countries regulate opioid prescribing and pain management.
  - International comparisons of opioid use trends and public health outcomes.
  - Disparities in access to pain management and opioid prescribing practices globally.
- **Innovations and Future Directions**
  - Advances in risk assessment and opioid stewardship programs in global healthcare systems.
  - Multimodal and integrative approaches to chronic pain treatment across cultures.
  - Digital health interventions for pain management and opioid monitoring in international settings.
  - The impact of public health litigation and opioid settlements on patient care worldwide.

### Guest Editors

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## Healthcare

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## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Healthcare* is an international, scientific, peer-reviewed, open access journal on health care systems, industry, technology, policy, and regulation, and is published semimonthly online by MDPI. Ocular Wellness & Nutrition Society (OWNS) is affiliated with Healthcare and its members receive discounts on article processing charges.

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