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. nonopioid 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

Dr. Christopher Keith Haddock

National Development and Research Institutes, Inc., New York, NY 10001, USA

Dr. Luther C. Elliott

School of Global Public Health, New York University, 708 Broadway, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10003, USA



Healthcare

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.7
CiteScore 4.7
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/250338

Healthcare
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
healthcare@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ healthcare





Healthcare

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.7 CiteScore 4.7 Indexed in PubMed



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Healthcare is an international, peerreviewed, open access, multidisciplinary journal. Original research articles, short communications, review articles, and symposium highlights are welcomed.

Healthcare hopes to influence global health and disease aspects, and hopes to gain high visibility and acceptance by the scientific and healthcare community and will dedicate itself to covering special and specific topics in special

We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

issues.

Prof. Dr. Lorraine S. Evangelista

Louise Herrington School of Nursing, Baylor University, Dallas, TX 75246-1754, USA

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE and SSCI (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Health Policy and Services) / CiteScore - Q1 (Leadership and Management)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 21.5 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

