Special Issue

The Mind-Heart Connection: Advances, Innovations and Implications for Public Health

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue intends to bring insights into the mind-heart connection, a complex topic with multiple implications for cardiovascular medicine and mental health. In particular, this topic can be explored from different perspectives, ranging from physiological to epidemiological and clinical studies investigating the multifaceted interplay between heart physiology and brain functions, or between cardiac diseases and mental disorders. Interesting subtopics are, for example, those related to how treating cardiovascular disorders can help prevent some neuropsychiatric conditions, and vice versa, how preserving mental wellbeing can have a positive impact on cardiovascular prevention. Other interesting areas are heart rate variability as well as functional imaging studies investigating the role of the autonomic nervous system in the mind-heart connection, as suggested by the polyvagal theory.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (29 February 2024)



Healthcare

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Impact Factor 2.7
CiteScore 4.7
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/160683

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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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