



Population Health Perspectives on Environmental Exposures and Influences on the Prevalence of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

While hypotheses concerning the etiology of birth defects and developmental disabilities abound, the causes of most of these conditions in infants and young children are unknown. The examination of environmental exposures has received increasing scrutiny, especially in the context of emerging awareness of gene–environment interactions and epigenetic effects of environmental exposures. Spatial statistical methods as well as GIS-based techniques have supported many interesting studies in this area.

In this Special Issue, we seek manuscripts with empirical data that extend our knowledge of the potential role of environmental factors (including but not limited to air, water, soil, meteorology) that may be associated with an increased risk for birth defects and developmental disabilities, directly or through the interaction with community-level or individual-level factors.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Discovery and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a scientific basis for decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards. *IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal.

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