



The Role of Air Pollution during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Message from the Guest Editors

Air pollution was a recognized and serious health problem long before the beginning of industrialization, and it is the largest environmental cause of disease and early death in the world today. The COVID-19 pandemic constitutes an unexpected challenge that is very different from the known viral infections, and is a big opportunity for the scientific community to study if environmental risk factors could be potential vehicles of transmission for airway viral infections and an exacerbating factor in the susceptibility to and/or severity of infection outbreaks.

For this Special Issue, we invite collaborative, interdisciplinary, and innovative work that seeks to deepen our understanding of the associations between, the potential effects, and the mechanisms involved in air pollution-induced exacerbation of respiratory infections, and to explore whether airborne pollution particles could be a vector that spreads COVID-19 and makes it more virulent. Furthermore, the scientific community has a unique opportunity to study the beneficial effects of the drastic reduction of air pollution derived from the global economic lockdown on the environment and human health.





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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. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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