

Special Issue

Innovative Approaches to Supporting Oral Health among Older Adults in Long-Term Care

Message from the Guest Editors

The number of older adults living in Long-Term Care (LTC) is increasing, with 1.5 million in the US alone. Supporting oral health for older adults in LTC is complex and interfaces with issues of increasing frailty and decreasing personal agency. Innovative approaches that address the complex drivers of the underlying disease processes that result in reduction in oral disease is vital in this important sub-population. Intervention studies looking at specific therapeutic agents have demonstrated reductions in disease among older adults, but only a few of these studies have targeted residents of LTC facilities. We welcome submissions that speak to the ways in which the highest attainable standard of oral health can be achieved for older adults in LTC through the application of novel systems in the delivery of care or novel applications of new and existing therapies.

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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.

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 journal.

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