Special Issue

Health Risks Posed by Social Isolation and Loneliness in Older Adults

Message from the Guest Editor

Social isolation and loneliness encapsulate the objective and subjective dimensions of social disconnectedness. Social isolation reflects a quantitative assessment of an individual's social network, focusing on metrics such as size, diversity, and frequency of contact. It signifies an actual dearth of social connections. As for loneliness, it is a subjective experience marked by a discrepancy between one's desired and actual social relationships. Evidence consistently shows that individuals with weaker social ties face a higher risk of adverse health outcomes. This Special Issue seeks research on social isolation and loneliness, and their associated health risks in older populations. We particularly focus on how these factors impact ageing health and well-being across domains like mental health, injuries, and noncommunicable diseases. Contributions should aim to enhance the survival, health, and overall well-being of older adults.

Guest Editor

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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.

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul B. Tchounwou

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