

Special Issue

Advances in Maternal and Child Nutrition and Health

Message from the Guest Editors

Early childhood is a critical period in the development, growth, and health of young children. The first 1000 days (conception–24 months) can provide a blueprint for future health behaviors, including sleep, physical activity, and feeding, and aid in the prevention of cardiometabolic diseases. There is a need for interventions that target this time to help shape these health behaviors, especially among historically marginalized populations. Thus far, interventions in early life primarily focus on behavior change of parents which often translates into engaging mother and child in intervention efforts. There is increasing recognition of the role of non-parent caregivers within family, community, healthcare systems, and policies in infant care which can influence children's future habits and behaviors. Papers that address these topics, especially research that considers interventions that move beyond the mother–child dyadic and consider the systems of social influence (e.g., family, community, healthcare systems, politics) that shape infant health behaviors, are invited to a Special Issue.

Guest Editors

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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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