

Special Issue

Food Environments and Eating Behaviours in Infants and Children

Message from the Guest Editors

The period of infancy and childhood provides a unique and critical window in which to address the issues of over- and under-nutrition that can contribute to compromised health and wellbeing across the life course. Eating behaviours are understood to play an important role in both over- and under-nutrition and are consequently under investigation with regard to their interactions with variables within food environments. From a socio-ecological perspective, food environments are considered vast constructs, spanning a breadth of micro- and macro- level factors, including socio-cultural and interpersonal constructs, as well as institutional and political factors. Current understanding of the array of food environment variables that, individually or collectively, interact with the eating behaviours of infants and children to contribute to over- and under-nutrition appears fragmented and fails to draw a comprehensive picture of environmental exposures. Further understanding of the role of eating behaviours, within the context of food environments, may have implications clinically whilst also having potential relevance within the realms of public health initiatives and policy.

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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.

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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