

## Special Issue

# Maternal, Infant, and Adolescent HIV Infection: Updating the Public Health Perspective

### Message from the Guest Editor

The clinical guidelines to treat HIV infection are well established at a world level, and relevant results have been achieved in terms of prevention and control of the spread of the virus. However, there are still peculiarities in HIV treatment related to different target populations. The interaction between health and social factors as determinants of the contagion as well as of the adherence to treatment underlines the need for different public health approaches to HIV care according to the characteristics of the social environment. Infant and mother pairs represent one of the main targets for preventive interventions, especially in developing countries, where vertical transmission is still a major issue. Adolescents are a population with specific problems, connected mainly to their adherence to treatment, which is known to be strongly related to their ability to communicate and their awareness of their HIV status. In both mother/infant pairs and adolescents, the loss-to-follow-up ratio is quite high and shows that effective care models are still lacking.

### Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Giuseppe Liotta

Department of Biomedicine and Prevention, University of Rome Tor Vergata, 00133 Rome, Italy

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Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[ijerph@mdpi.com](mailto:ijerph@mdpi.com)

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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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Prof. Dr. Paul B. Tchounwou  
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