

## Special Issue

# Microbial Ecology and Health Risk in Human Activity Sites

### Message from the Guest Editor

Microorganisms fulfil many key functions responsible for ecological stability of ecosystems. However, the ecology of microorganisms is heavily determined by human activity which may negatively affect environmental health, but it can also be seen in public spaces. This happens because anthropopressure has an enormous impact on the epidemiological safety and microbiological quality of all types of environments (water, soil, air). Constantly developing industry and agriculture together with rapid urbanization lead to xenobiotic contamination, followed by the decline in microbial diversity, emergence of sanitary risks, the acquisition of antibiotic resistance, and many other problems. Therefore, there is a need for constant updating of our knowledge of human impact on microbiological processes observed in the natural environment and possibilities of counteracting negative consequences of anthropopressure. **Keywords:** microbial ecology; environmental microbiology; anthropogenic pressure; environmental pollution; sanitary threat; antimicrobial resistance; microbial diversity; microbial activity; pathogens; xenobiotics

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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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