

Special Issue

Improving Oral Health for Older Adults

Message from the Guest Editors

By 2030, the elderly population will increase so that one in every five residents, or more than 70 million Americans, will be 65 or older. As the population ages, so will the burden of chronic disease. Among the most common diseases affecting older adults are chronic diseases of the oral cavity, including dental infections (e.g., caries, periodontitis), tooth loss, mucosal lesions, and oral cancer. These conditions can adversely affect nutrition, self-esteem, quality of life, and general health. Oral health's association with general health, morbidity, and mortality in older adults highlights its importance for healthy aging. Adding to this is the fact that many older adults have unmet needs, do not see a dentist annually, or reside in long-term care settings with poor access to oral health care. This Special Issue focuses on oral health and older adults. New research papers, reviews, case reports, and conference papers are welcome for this issue.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 May 2026



International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

CiteScore 8.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/240565

*International Journal of
Environmental Research and
Public Health*
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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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