# **Special Issue**

# Addressing Oral Health Needs in Vulnerable and Underserved Populations

# Message from the Guest Editor

Oral health is a vital component of overall health, yet underserved and at-risk populations, including individuals living in poverty, experiencing incarceration, managing chronic illness or disability, or facing limited access to care, continue to carry a disproportionate burden of oral disease. These disparities are influenced by various factors, including social and economic conditions, gaps in access to care, and inadequate delivery of preventive services. In this Special Issue, we hope to highlight practical, community-informed, and evidence-based approaches that can help close these gaps and improve oral health outcomes where they are needed most. We welcome original research, case studies, and reviews on topics such as oral disease burden, barriers to dental care, culturally tailored interventions, innovative care delivery models, and the integration of oral health into primary and community health systems. Submissions that explore interdisciplinary strategies and measurable impacts on oral health outcomes are especially encouraged.

### **Guest Editor**

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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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.

## Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul R. Ward

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