Special Issue

Substance Use Disorders: A Global Public Health Issue

Message from the Guest Editor

Without any question, substance use disorders (SUD) such as substance abuse and addiction, are major public health concerns worldwide. Even if health care systems provide divergent possibilities for prevention and therapy, only a more or less small part of people suffering from SUD can be reached by current options. On average, most people suffering from SUD enter the treatment system after many years of SUD. Therapeutic options contain many different parts such as addiction specific counselling, motivational interviewing, cognitive-behavioral therapies, pharmacological treatment and lately different types of e-interventions. Those entering treatment have many complex needs including mental health needs that can only be met through a combination of specialist treatment and a wider social and health care. This Special Issue addresses divergent aspects of SUD as a worldwide major health issue. It contains somatic, mental and especially psychosocial consequences of SUD, as well as meaningful aspects of prevention and therapeutic options in different health care systems worldwide.

Guest Editor

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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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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul B. Tchounwou

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