Special Issue

Work-Life Policies, Employee Health and Well-Being

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue addresses a critical aspect of the care economy, exploring the role of workplace policies and programs on the emotional/mental health and physical well-being of employees. Particular attention will be given to carer-employees (CEs), defined as individuals who work in paid employment and provide unpaid care to adults with an age-related need, longterm illness, and/or physical/mental condition. The number of CEs in Canada and worldwide increased as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. For many CEs, the COVID-19 pandemic added additional economic, psychological and physical risks due to the intersecting inequities based on socioeconomic status, race, immigration status, geographic location, and sexual orientation, among other factors. There is a need to reassess our understanding of employment policies and programs to ensure that post-recovery employment structures are equitable, allowing CEs to sustain their health and wellbeing and ideally thrive in the postpandemic future.

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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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