

## Special Issue

# The Hidden Epidemic: Child Abuse and Its Long-Term Public Health Consequences

### Message from the Guest Editors

Child abuse remains a pervasive and underreported global issue with profound and lasting consequences for individual and population health. Its impact extends far beyond childhood, contributing to a wide range of long-term physical, psychological, and social problems, including chronic diseases, mental health disorders, substance abuse, and impaired educational and economic outcomes. Despite growing recognition of the adverse effects of early trauma, child abuse often remains hidden due to social stigma, systemic failures, and limitations in detection and reporting mechanisms. This Special Issue aims to advance interdisciplinary research that explores the multifaceted dimensions of child abuse and its long-term public health consequences. We welcome contributions that examine prevalence, risk and protective factors, prevention strategies, trauma-informed care, and the role of health, education, and social service systems in addressing abuse and mitigating its effects. Studies focusing on vulnerable populations, intergenerational impacts, policy responses, and innovative intervention models are particularly encouraged.

### Guest Editors

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 July 2026



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## About the Journal

### 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.

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