Special Issue

Addictive Behaviors and Psychological Distress among Adolescents

Message from the Guest Editors

Adolescence is an important period in life where major psychosocial development occurs, and academic knowledge or skills are acquired which can be used in the teen's future career. In this crucial period, more complex forms of interpersonal relationships take place which enable socialization and preparation for more intimate bonding in maturity. However, it is also a window period that renders adolescents susceptible to psychological distress and addictive behaviors. This Special Issue will cover various addictive behaviors, such as behavioral addictions, e.g., gambling, gaming disorder, online pornography, and problematic smartphone use; and substance use, including alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, and other illicit drugs. Their relationships with psychological distress and the potential impact on neurodevelopment will be reported and discussed. We invite and welcome original research and reviews that explore the various substance and behavioral addictions in adolescents which impact or are affected by psychological distress in the area of assessment of both risk and protective factors, biological correlates, and interventional studies.

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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

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