Special Issue

The Built Environment and Physical Activity: In Search of Causality

Message from the Guest Editors

The built environment likely plays an important role in shaping physical activity and sedentary behaviours. Most common among these are urban design elements (encompassing walkability); traffic safety; the presence of walking and cycling infrastructure; the aesthetics of the neighbourhood; the availability of recreational facilities; and access to, and quality of, parks and public open spaces. Unlike other health promotion efforts, creating an environment that is supportive of active behaviours has an enduring impact. By-and-large, however, the evidence is from cross-sectional studies that show, for example, that a particular characteristic of the built environment is associated with a particular physical activity behaviour. Longitudinal studies, in particular those that capitalise on changes to the neighbourhood environment, either through modification or relocation, are less common. They are, however, critical to shaping our understanding of the causal relationship between the environment and physical activity.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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Editor-in-Chief

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