

Special Issue

The Fascinating World of Lithium

Message from the Guest Editors

Lithium, which occurs widely in nature, generally in trace concentrations, has been in the list of Critical Raw Materials since September 2020. The peculiarities of lithium give it important properties that make it useful in many areas, such as the nuclear industry, industrial production processes, high-tech applications (e.g., ultra-large telescope optics), military applications, earth science process studies (e.g., geochronometers, weathering thermostats), medicine (e.g., treatment of psychiatric affective disorders), and emerging clean and alternative energies (e.g., rechargeable batteries) for electric mobility. Since lithium has, for a long time, played an important role in society, we invite colleagues from different disciplines to share their research on Li geological resources and economic exploitation, fields of application, future demands, environmental concerns, biochemistry mechanisms, and human health.

Guest Editors

Dr. Maria Orquidia Teixeira Neves

- 1) Department of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Georesources, Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, 1041-001 Lisbon, Portugal
- 2) CERENA (Centro de Recursos Naturais e Ambiente), 1041-001 Lisbon, Portugal

Dr. José Manuel Marques

1. Department of Mineral and Energy Resources Engineering, Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, 1049-001 Lisbon, Portugal
2. Centro de Recursos Naturais e Ambiente (CERENA), Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, 1049-001 Lisbon, Portugal

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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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Prof. Dr. Paul R. Ward

Centre for Public Health, Equity and Human Flourishing, Torrens
University Australia, Adelaide 5000, Australia

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