

## Special Issue

# Media Use during Childhood and Adolescence

### Message from the Guest Editors

The use of several different media by toddlers and adults is changing personal relationships and behaviors. A constellation of interactive apps, social networks, and video games is continuously offered to the general population and their use is constantly increasing in childhood. Young children frequently own a mobile device and are massively exposed to digital content. Adverse effects of early and prolonged exposure to digital technologies in pre-school children have been described in several studies. Moreover, problematic internet use is considered an important public health concern in specific groups, such as adolescents. Social network and smartphone use may be associated with learning difficulties, poor sleep quality, and ocular problems. Problematic smartphone use has been related to addiction, skeletal problems, muscle pain, sedentary lifestyle, lack of physical energy, and weakened immunity. Cyberbullying and Hikikomori phenomena are also becoming popular. Smartphones and the Internet have also been associated with several positive outcomes relevant to social interaction and communication, developmental and psychology features, and dexterity.

### Guest Editors

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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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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