Special Issue

Medical and Health Professions Education at the Time of COVID-19: Current Perspectives and New Trends

Message from the Guest Editors

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to profound changes in medical and health education processes. Health professionals have had to adapt and innovate in order to meet the needs of students, patients, and the community. In particular, the lockdown measures that were necessary worldwide to contain the infection had a significant impact on all aspects of medical and health profession education, including curricula, teaching methods, student selection processes, educational outcomes, and student and teacher quality of life. In this scenario, technology has played and continues to play a fundamental role, with differences between the various health professions, both those requiring specific psychomotor skills (such as surgery) and those relying more on the relationship with the patient (such as psychology and psychotherapy). Consequently, educational and training processes of physicians and health professionals require constant updating in order to adequately respond to the changes that pandemic management has introduced.

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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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