Special Issue

Multidimensional Aspects of Oral Health-Related Quality of Life

Message from the Guest Editors

Oral-health-related quality of life (OHRQoL) is considered an integral part of general health and wellbeing, encompassing the subjective perception of the state of oral health, functional and emotional well-being, expectations of and satisfactions with the dental care received, and self-esteem. The FDI World Dental Federation (FDI) considers oral health to be multifaceted, including the ability to speak, smile, smell, taste, touch, chew, swallow, and express a range of emotions through facial expressions with confidence and without pain and discomfort, and with the absence of craniofacial complex diseases. In this context, oral diseases and disorders can have negative impacts on OHRQoL, affecting oral functions, self-esteem, general well-being, and social activities. Papers dealing with new approaches to OHRQoL measures complemented by clinical and behavioral indicators, providing support to oral health needs, are welcome. The psychosocial, environmental, cultural, and economic aspects involved in OHRQoL, and guided oral health policies to incorporate patient-centered approaches and assessed treatment needs, may also be addressed.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 May 2025)



International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

CiteScore 8.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/116098

International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health Editorial Office MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 ijerph@mdpi.com

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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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