

Special Issue

Non-Emergent Care in Emergency Departments

Message from the Guest Editors

In addition to their mission of providing care, hospitals, and particularly Emergency Departments (ED), play a public health role. EDs often manage social problems, including poverty and social instability. Hospitals and their EDs are refuges for insecure local populations and migrants arriving in a given country. Emergency physicians are also led to manage consultations for administrative and legal reasons. Thus, non-emergent ED utilization and non-emergency care can represent up to 50% of the activity of an ED. This non-urgent care obviously impacts ED and hospital non-scheduled activities.

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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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