

Special Issue

Prenatal Stress, Health Behaviors and Child Development

Message from the Guest Editors

The importance of the prenatal environment on long-term health outcomes has become increasingly clear in recent decades. The epidemiological observation that a stressful intrauterine environment affects the psychophysiological development of infants and may increase risk for the future development of lifestyle-related diseases reaffirms the importance of maternal healthcare for the next generation. New research highlights the complexities of these relationships based on diverse factors, such as maternal sociodemographic characteristics, interactions among multiple prenatal risk factors such as stress and health behaviors, and features of the early postnatal environment that might moderate outcomes. At the same time, the increasing public health awareness of the long-term impact of the prenatal environment on health is leading to new interventions integrating maternal mental health and health behaviors during pregnancy, with the aim of improving the long-term outcomes of the next generation.

Guest Editors

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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.

IJERPH provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality peer-reviewed journal.

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