

Special Issue

Preterm Birth: Research, Intervention and Developmental Outcomes

Message from the Guest Editors

Preterm birth is defined as a birth occurring before 37 weeks of gestation. As recently suggested by the World Health Organization, preterm birth is recognized as an important public health issue, since prematurity is one of the leading causes of death in children under 5 years of age. The incidence rate has increased in the last ten years, and inequalities in survival rates and negative outcomes are described around the world. Indeed, in low-income countries, the rate of death is around 50% for babies born below 32 weeks of gestation, while in high-income countries, almost all preterm babies survive, though severe and moderate impairments are reported. Preterm birth is therefore a critical event that not only affects child development but also has an impact on the families and society, with particular reference to care and educational settings. This Special Issue aims at documenting research on the effects of preterm birth on developmental outcomes from the first years of life, including school age and up to the adolescence.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

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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