Special Issue

Seaweeds, Bioactive Compounds and Health

Message from the Guest Editors

Non-communicable chronic diseases have become a major health problem worldwide. Although the development of some of these diseases has a wellknown genetic background/predisposition component, several modifiable risk factors have been identified as triggering factors. Unfortunately, the therapeutic approaches have not been successful enough since their prevalence has increased. In this scenario, much effort has been made by the scientific community to look for bioactive compounds that may exert beneficial effects and thus serve as preventive or therapeutic tools against non-communicable chronic diseases. In this regard, seaweeds have been identified as rich sources of compounds of interest, such as minerals, vitamins, sterols, polyunsaturated fatty acids, fiber. polysaccaharides, and peptides. Indeed, studies conducted in vitro have reported promising results regarding the potential usage of seaweeds for the development of nutraceuticals or drugs that may be effective for the treatment of the aforementioned diseases. This Special Issue aims to summarize our current knowledge of seaweed usage in the prevention and treatment of non-communicable chronic diseases.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2022)



International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

CiteScore 8.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/66324

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