

## Special Issue

# Neurobiological and Neuroepigenetic Factors in Childhood Disorders: Autism Spectrum Disorder and Obesity

### Message from the Guest Editor

Clinical diagnoses of obesity and Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) are increasingly prevalent, with incidence rates of 1 in 8 adults for obesity and 1 in 100 children for ASD. Interestingly, there is increased comorbidity between obesity and ASD, suggesting shared etiological and neurobiological mechanisms. Given the polygenic nature of these conditions, identifying risk factors and aberrant neurobiological mechanisms underlying obesity and ASD is challenging. Contributing factors include environmental influences such as diet, teratogen exposure, medication use during pregnancy, epigenetic changes, and genetic predisposition. This special issue will explore how these factors impact the hypothalamus, cerebellum, frontal cortex, and other brain areas implicated in obesity and ASD, as well as the interplay between environmental, epigenetic, and genetic factors. Contributions can focus on clinical or animal models and should address neuroepigenetic mechanisms and developmental aspects relevant to the pathophysiology of obesity and/or ASD. Contributions can be review papers and original full-length research articles.

### Guest Editor

Dr. Elisa Na

Faculty of Psychology and Philosophy, Texas Woman's University,  
Denton, TX 76204, USA

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[life@mdpi.com](mailto:life@mdpi.com)

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lluís Ribas de Pouplana

Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona), The Barcelona  
Institute of Science and Technology, 08028 Barcelona, Spain

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