

Special Issue

Developmental Programming in Cats and Dogs

Message from the Guest Editors

There is an abundance of evidence that links early-life risk factors with later health issues in humans. According to the Developmental Origin of Health and Diseases concept, the perinatal period is a critical window for shaping long-term health. However, there is a clear knowledge gap regarding the impact of this period on dogs and cats. The wide range of dog and cat breeds, breeding practices and lifestyles complicates research in this field, which is compounded by the effects of neutering procedures, which can lead to the further revelation of certain health conditions. During the growing period, preventive medicine and husbandry practices from preconception onwards are essential to ensure the sustained health and wellbeing of dogs and cats. This Special Issue welcomes non-invasive research studies or literature reviews that investigate the perinatal and early growth factors that positively influence the later growth and adult life of dogs and cats. Potential contributions can cover topics ranging from nutritional intervention to managing early weight gain, as well as assessments of the impact of the sterilization.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 April 2026



Life

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.4
CiteScore 6.0
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/248148

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Life (ISSN 2075-1729) is an international, peer-reviewed open access journal that publishes scientific studies related to fundamental themes in life sciences. Some papers are published individually, while others are submitted for inclusion in special issues with guest editors. You are invited to contribute a research article, essay, or a review to be considered for publication.

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