

## Special Issue

# Fetal Life: Normal and Abnormal Development

### Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue is dedicated to fetal life, a unique and crucial event that affects postnatal life from birth to death. Although most fetuses have an uneventful intrauterine life, there are unfortunately cases of abnormal fetal development and intrauterine events that dictate an unfortunate postnatal life. Congenital malformations that occur during embryogenesis are an excellent example of intrauterine events disturbing normal life. Another example of an adverse event is preterm delivery. This last mentioned event is responsible for prematurity affecting brain development and function. The most novel and interesting concept affecting life is the concept of fetal programming. It is clear today that the intrauterine environment affects postnatal life. For example, maternal starvation changes the genetic expression of the fetus through epigenetic mechanisms affecting postnatal life for generations. We dedicated this edition to fetal life, describing normal development and unfortunate events that affect postnatal life.

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### Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Zeev Weiner

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Rambam Health Care Campus, Rambam Medical Center, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa 310960, Israel

Dr. Ron Beloosesky

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Rambam Health Care Campus, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa 3109601, Israel

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## Life

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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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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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