



Effects of Early Nutrition on Premature Infants

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Message from the Guest Editor

It has long been known that malnutrition, whether intrauterine or extrauterine, causes changes in brain development, leading to delays in the development of children and adolescents. We also know that growth and development are linked. Intrauterine and extrauterine malnutrition is becoming increasingly prevalent, especially in low- and middle-income countries, due to socioeconomic problems such as absent or inadequate prenatal care, lack of adequate vaccination, low caloric and/or protein intake, and prematurity. Intrauterine malnutrition is also prevalent in developed countries, mainly due to problems occurring during pregnancy, such as assisted fertilization, multiple pregnancies, and pre-eclampsia. Low intake of essential nutrients for good intra- and extrauterine brain development also occurs in rich and affected by all those situations.

Therefore, malnutrition is a global public health problem highlighting a growing gap between poor and rich countries in somatic growth and neurodevelopment. Thus, we must delve deeper into this topic by studying its consequences and prevention through looking closely at the effects of nutrition in this population.





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