

## Special Issue

# Factors Contributing to Prevention of NEC and Nutritional Requirements with a Diagnosis of NEC

### Message from the Guest Editors

Necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC) is the most common gastrointestinal emergency of very low birth weight (VLBW) and very preterm (VPT) infants with a 20–30% mortality rate and a high impact on growth and neurodevelopment amongst survivors. Among VLBW infants with NEC, surgical intervention is necessary in 27–52%. NEC is a multifactorial heterogeneous disorder involving multiple factors such as immaturity, intrauterine growth, inflammation, dysbiosis, immunity, nutrition, cardiorespiratory status, infection and antibiotic exposure. Most infants with surgical NEC develop growth failure. Additional research and multidisciplinary collaboration are needed to determine the best postoperative nutritional management. In this Special Issue of *Nutrients*, we aim to give a brief overview on various interventions to prevent NEC and nutritional interventions for this vulnerable population at the various stages of the disease process.

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*Nutrients* is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2009. *Nutrients* adheres to rigorous peer-review and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues related to the impacts of nutrients on human health. The Impact Factor of *Nutrients* has risen rapidly since its establishment and it is now ranked in the first quartile of journals publishing in the field of nutrition and dietetics research.

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