Special Issue

Maternal Nutrition and Its Effect on Offspring Growth

Message from the Guest Editor

For this Special Issue of Nutrients, we would like to bring together papers focusing on the topic of the influence of maternal nutrition and fetal health and growth. Normal fetal growth depends on the genetic background, endocrine milieu, and an appropriate supply of oxygen and nutrients. According to the theory of "early life programming", environmental factors and lifestyle during pregnancy determine the risk of developing chronic diseases later in life and also influence lifelong health in offspring. Moreover, different nutrients are able to influence and modify the epigenetic pattern in the mother and the fetus during pregnancy, which is the most sensitive period for epigenetic changes that will persist in adult life. Maternal diet during pregnancy may also influence the development of the infant out microbiome. Therefore, the microbiome modulates the inflammatory mechanisms related to physiological and pathological processes that are involved in perinatal progress, and it may influence the susceptibility to infections and diseases.

Guest Editor

Dr. Giorgia Sebastiani

Department of Neonatology, Hospital Clínic-Maternitat, Institut Clínic de Ginecologia, Obstetrícia i Neonatologia (ICGON), Spain BCNatal, Barcelona Center for Maternal Fetal and Neonatal Medicine, Barcelona, Spain

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Nutrients
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
nutrients@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ nutrients





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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.

Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lluis Serra-Majem

- Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red Fisiopatología de la Obesidad y la Nutrición (CIBEROBN), Institute of Health Carlos III, 28029 Madrid, Spain
- Research Institute of Biomedical and Health Sciences (IUIBS),
 University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, 35001 Las Palmas, Spain
 Preventive Medicine Service, Centro Hospitalario Universitario
 Insular Materno Infantil (CHUIMI), Canarian Health Service, 35016 Las

Prof. Dr. Maria Luz Fernandez

Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269, USA

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