

Special Issue

Diet and Lifestyle Factors Associated with Allergic Diseases in Early Life

Message from the Guest Editor

The prevalence of allergic diseases has increased in the past few decades in Westernized countries. Nowadays, up to 30% of children suffer from at least one allergic disease, making allergies a significant public health concern. Allergies are a complex inflammatory disease characterized by a T-helper cell-type-2-driven phenotype, as well as epidermal and immune-related genotypes, skin barrier defects, immune dysregulation and microbial dysbiosis. Epidemiological studies have shown that lifestyle factors such as growing up on a farm or nutrition diversity in the first year of life can beneficially influence the developing gut microbiome and metabolome; both factors have been connected to healthy immune homeostasis and epithelial barrier integrity development in children. Understanding the influences of dietary and lifestyle factors on the development of the microbiome and the immune system is crucial to reversing the increase in allergy prevalence and developing preventive strategies. Therefore, this Special Issue, titled 'Diet and Lifestyle Factors Associated with Allergic Diseases in Early Life', will highlight these issues in greater depth.

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Message from the Editorial Board

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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