

# Special Issue

## Infant Feeding and Obesity

### Message from the Guest Editors

Childhood overweight and obesity are global concerns that can amplify health disparities by increasing children's risk for diabetes, cardiovascular problems, and other health conditions, as well as stigma and psychosocial problems. Obesity prevention and treatment trials introduced during school-age have had limited sustainable impact, resulting in recommendations that health promotion and obesity prevention be initiated during infancy.

Growth patterns established during infancy are foundational for children's subsequent growth and development. Infants who experience rapid weight gain are at elevated risk for lifelong overweight and obesity. Recommendations for infant feeding based on the WHO, UNICEF, and the 2020–2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans include breast milk for the first 6 months, followed by the introduction of complementary feeding at approximately 6 months and continuation of breast milk, in a nurturant context that is responsive to infants' cues of hunger and satiety. Throughout the world, modifiable conditions, including political, environmental, economic, and family may either challenge or promote optimal infant feeding.

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## 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.

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