

Special Issue

Inorganic Nitrate/Nitrite in Human Health and Disease

Message from the Guest Editor

It is now well established that the human body uses exogenous nitrate/nitrite to synthesise the important messenger molecule, nitric oxide (NO) via the nitrate-nitrite-NO pathway. This is especially important in NO-depletion states, where exogenous nitrate/nitrite may be required in greater amounts to maintain health and prevent disease. Given that nitric oxide possesses many organ protective properties it stands to reason that sufficient NO derived from dietary or non-dietary nitrate sources may offer protection against a number of chronic diseases linked to NO depletion (e.g., cardiovascular disease, metabolic disease, respiratory disease). In the last decade there has been a surge in the number of studies examining the effects of nitrate/nitrite on cardiovascular risk factors, however limited studies have examined the association with hard cardiovascular disease endpoints. Furthermore, few studies have examined the effects of long term nitrate intake and cardiovascular disease. Moreover, an even smaller number of studies have examined any association with other diseases, such as metabolic and respiratory disease.

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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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