

Special Issue

Infant and Toddler Feeding and Development

Message from the Guest Editors

Childhood overweight and obesity are global concerns that can amplify low productivity and increase healthcare expenditure by raising children's risk of developing diabetes and cardiovascular problems, including poor psychosocial health. Obesity prevention and treatment trials introduced during school age have had limited sustainable impacts, leading to recommendations that health promotion and obesity prevention be initiated during infancy and toddlerhood.

Recommendations for infants include breast milk for the first six months, followed by complementary feeding at six months, and the continuation of breast milk in a nurturant context that is responsive to infants' hunger and satiety cues. For toddlers include providing a variety of nutrient-rich foods in a daily routine of three meals and two to three snacks, listening to toddlers' hunger and fullness cues, making mealtime pleasant by eating together, and avoiding pressuring toddlers to eat or using food as a reward or punishment. Across the world, modifiable conditions, including political, environmental, economic, and family factors may either challenge or promote optimal infant and toddler feeding.

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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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