

Special Issue

Zinc Deficiency and Supplementation Related to Metabolic Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Zinc, the most ubiquitous trace element, is present throughout all biologic systems, where it has abundant, varied functions. More than 100 enzymes require zinc to perform catalytic functions. It participates in all major biochemical pathways, and it plays multiple roles in the perpetuation of genetic material, i.e., DNA transcription, RNA translation, and cellular division. Given the diverse array of zinc-dependent biological functions, it is not surprising that the zinc status of an individual influences multiple metabolic functions i.e., growth, immune competence, and neuro-behavioral development. Although zinc deficiency is one of the most common nutrient deficiencies worldwide, the broad range of physiological signs of zinc deficiency make it difficult to identify. Nevertheless, the likelihood of zinc deficiency in a population can be assessed by reviewing the adequacy of zinc in the food supply and the rate of stunting in preschool children.

Guest Editor

Dr. Janet King

Department of Nutritional Sciences & Toxicology, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 February 2024)



Nutrients

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.0
CiteScore 9.1
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/181181

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

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

Prof. Dr. Maria Luz Fernandez

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

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