

## Special Issue

# Role of Olfaction in Food Intake, Metabolism, Energy Balance and Obesity

### Message from the Guest Editors

Olfaction is a major sensory modality involved in the perception of the composition of the external environment, playing an important role in eating behavior and food choices, social relationships, and identification of environmental dangers. The olfactory system shows the ability to gather and process information simultaneously from the external and internal environment; in fact, olfactory receptors are also present in organs outside the nasal cavity where they bind to molecules such as nutrients and metabolites from the animal's internal environment to elicit physiological responses, such as regulation of appetite. There is a direct action of metabolic peptides on the olfactory network: orexigenic peptides increase olfactory sensitivity, while anorexigenic hormones decrease it. The olfactory system regulates food intake, food choices and energy balance, by participating in the cephalic phase responses and interacting with central nervous circuitries. **Keywords**

- olfaction
- eating behavior
- food choices
- metabolism
- energy balance
- body mass index

### Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Roberto M. Crnjar

Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Cagliari, Cagliari, Italy

Dr. Giorgia Sollai

Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Cagliari, Cagliari, Italy

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 September 2022)



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*Nutrients*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[nutrients@mdpi.com](mailto:nutrients@mdpi.com)

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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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