Prenatal Exposure to Environmental Pollutants and Other Stressors: Impacts on Fetal Development, Birth Outcomes, Children’s Health and Beyond

Guest Editor:
Prof. Dr. Halina B. Röllin
School of Health Systems and Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pretoria (UP), Prinshof 0084, Pretoria, South Africa
halina.rollin@up.ac.za

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Message from the Guest Editor

The impact of prenatal exposure to environmental pollutants and other stressors poses a threat to fetal development in all stages of pregnancy. Early life exposures have been shown to interfere with fetal and early childhood development and are known to impact morbidity and mortality in adulthood. The World Health Organization (WHO) recognizes that environmental pollution is a major cause of global disease, death and disability, with a toll greater than that caused by the communicable diseases HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined.

The aim of this Special Issue is to bring together researchers from different countries and continents to share their expertise and advance our understanding of the complex interaction between exposure to contaminants during the prenatal stages, birth outcomes and health risks in children. Original research articles and reviews are welcome. Research areas may include, but are not limited to, the following: prenatal exposures to environmental pollutants; birth outcomes; longitudinal studies of birth cohorts; sex/gender aspects in response to pollutant exposures; impact of specific exposures on long-term health effects; disease susceptibility associated with genetic, epigenetic and lifestyle factors; nutritional effects; climatic influences; methodological and epidemiological studies; toxicological studies; potential impacts of prenatal exposures on the development of non-communicable diseases in neonates and young children; and issues that inform prevention strategies, policy formulation, and the interface and overlap between environmental and public health.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Discovery and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a scientific basis for decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards. *IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal.

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