



children



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Endocrine Diseases in Pediatrics: Diagnosis and Treatment

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Endocrine glands are essential for the regulation of intrauterine homeostasis, the appropriate maturation and differentiation of fetal organs, and correct growth during postnatal life. Indeed, hormones have complex functions and they play subtle roles in regulating the development of the cardiovascular, endocrine, digestive, muscle-skeletal, and nervous systems. Furthermore, abnormal functioning of the endocrine glands during the pediatric age may lead to disrupted development and abnormal growth. Indeed, during a child's development, from birth to adolescence, genetic, epigenetic, and environmental factors can influence the correct functioning of the endocrine system. These stressful factors can determine the onset of problems related to the homeostasis of the organism. The recent scientific literature on newborns, children, and adolescents has disclosed anomalous clinical outcomes that evidence several dysfunctions of the endocrine glands. However, the benefits of hormone replacement therapy or other treatments remain controversial.

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