



healthcare



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Clinical Trials in Antenatal and Intrapartum Care

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The obstetric field provides a challenging arena for conducting good quality research. Recruitment may be hampered by the 24-hour, fast-paced, labour ward environment, and by the ethical concerns around intrapartum consent. Other research challenges include the low-incidence but serious outcomes of a primarily healthy population, the need for long-term neonatal follow-up, maternal disregard for her own health relative to that of the foetus and strong socio-cultural beliefs around childbirth. This Special Issue showcases examples of recent work where judicious trial design and methodology has addressed these obstacles, in defiance of the common misconception that non-evidence-based obstetric practice is acceptable.

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Special Issue