



*animals*



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## Animal-Assisted Interventions: Effects and Mechanisms of Action

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (30 September 2025)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

This Special Issue welcomes submissions including primary research focused on the efficacy of animal-assisted interventions to improve human health and wellbeing, including physical, mental health and behavioral issues. Research papers may also explore the mechanism of action of animal-assisted interventions and the benefits and drawbacks of involvement in such interventions for the animals and humans involved. Research focusing on how animal-assisted interventions are currently being used to augment or as an alternative to standard treatments' is also welcomed. This Special Issue intends to move forward the knowledge on what issues animal-assisted interventions are effective for and what their mechanism of action may be. In addition, papers which include findings relating to the positive or negative impacts on the animals involved in animal-assisted interventions will be considered.

Prof. Dr. Ann Hemingway  
*Guest Editor*



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**Special** Issue



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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Animals* is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

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