



*animals*



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## Impact of Conformation on Companion Animal Behaviour, Welfare and Human-Animal Interactions

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (20 July 2023)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce a Special Issue of the journal *Animals*, which will explore the relationship between conformation (morphology) and the health, behaviour and welfare of companion animals. Humans have an enormous appetite for diversity in the appearance of companion animals, selecting for a variety of exaggerated traits including body size, ear type, coat type, and skull, dental and skeletal dimensions. Classically considered the domain of the domestic dog, a species noted for its remarkable phenotypic plasticity, conformational extremes are now being selected for in a range of common companion animal species including cats and rabbits, and increasingly in non-mammalian exotic species such as birds, reptiles and fish. With such selection decisions often heavily based on aesthetics, health can be detrimentally affected due to both reduced selection pressure for this trait, but also due to direct links between conformational traits and disease. We encourage the submission of original manuscripts in this area, including but not limited to the impact of conformation upon: Animal welfare; Human-animal interactions; Animal behaviour; Animal health.



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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 (2023, ranks 10/80 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 16/167 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.0.

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