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## Pediatric Metabolic Associated Fatty Liver Disease (MAFLD): A “New” Disease

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:

**closed (1 May 2021)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

During the last few decades, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) has become the most common cause of chronic liver disease in children. The rise in its prevalence has paralleled the pediatric obesity epidemic. Recently, a new definition for NAFLD has been proposed: metabolic-associated fatty liver disease (MAFLD). This new definition highlights the pivotal role of obesity in MAFLD diagnosis and progression. Several studies have clearly demonstrated that NAFLD represents the hepatic manifestation of metabolic syndrome. In particular, NAFLD is actively involved in worsening insulin-resistance and in the derangement of glucose homeostasis. Many challenges arise from this new definition. The first lies in the identification of non-invasive diagnostic biomarkers and imaging tools. Moreover, new targeted therapies to treat the metabolic abnormalities associated with fatty liver are needed. We invite investigators to contribute review articles as well as original research articles that will stimulate the continuing efforts to understand the natural history, pathogenesis, diagnostic tools, and comorbidities of MAFLD.



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**Special** Issue



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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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