



The Lifelong Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Health

Guest Editors:

**Dr. Ângela Rosa Pinho Costa
Maia**

School of Psychology, University
of Minho, 4710-057 Braga,
Portugal

Dr. Mariana Gonçalves

School of Psychology, University
of Minho, 4710-057 Braga,
Portugal

Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

30 April 2025

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACE) is a prevalent public health concern worldwide, resulting in extensive costs on both an individual and a societal level. The effects of trauma go far beyond its immediate psychological and physical effects. It can change biology and behavior throughout a person's lifetime, significantly affecting interpersonal and intergenerational relationships. Exposure to trauma is particularly harmful when it occurs during childhood or adolescence, disrupting numerous aspects of cognitive, emotional, and social development, with long-term consequences for learning and memory, educational outcomes, emotional functioning, and social relationships, and resulting in an elevated risk of re-victimization, mental disorders, physical diseases, and criminal behaviors. The effects of traumatic exposure extend far beyond the symptoms of post-traumatic disorder (PTSD) and related disorders, with complex trauma assuming a high prevalence in persons that have experienced ACE.





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul B. Tchounwou
RCMI Center for Urban Health
Disparities Research and
Innovation, Richard N. Dixon
Research Center, Morgan State
University, Baltimore, MD 21251,
USA

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Discovery and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a scientific basis for decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards. *IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal.

Author Benefits

Open Access: free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility: indexed within Scopus, PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, Embase, GEOBASE, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank: CiteScore - Q1 (Public Health, Environmental and Occupational Health)

Contact Us

*International Journal of
Environmental Research and Public
Health* Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
www.mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ijerph
ijerph@mdpi.com
X@IJERPH_MDPI