



## Environmental Factors and Lifestyle Influence on Human Health: The Contribution of Epigenetic Mechanisms

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Increasing evidence shows that environmental and lifestyle factors may be associated with a variety of human diseases. The search for a possible mechanism able to explain such associations has repeatedly pointed to epigenetics as a possible bridge between exposure and disease development. Epigenetic mechanisms are, in fact, flexible genomic parameters that can change genome function under exogenous influence but also provide a mechanism that allows for the stable propagation of gene activity states from one generation of cells to the next. In addition to what is strictly classified as epigenetics (for example DNA methylation, histone modifications and chromatin remodelling) other mechanism (such as microRNAs, extracellular vesicles) are starting to emerge as fundamental in this complex topic.

The goal of this Special Issue is to expand the current state of knowledge on these topics, to focus on the current gaps and help in the near future to bridge these gaps.





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## 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.

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