



## Maternal Overnutrition and Obesity throughout Pregnancy

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### Message from the Guest Editor

The placenta plays a central role in regulating nutrient flow from the mother to the fetus; therefore, complications resulting from maternal overnutrition and/or obesity during gestation may alter placental vascularity, metabolism, and/or nutrient transport function, leading to alterations in fetal growth, metabolism, and organ development (Ford and Odhiambo, 2017).

The prevalence of obesity in pregnant women is reported to be between 20% and 34%, impacting individuals of differing ages, races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic statuses worldwide (Ng et al, 2014). Further, it has been reported that the prevalence of overweight and obesity among children and adolescents is about 13% and 24% in developing and developed countries, respectively, causing maternal obesity to be a major public health issue on the global scale.

This Special Issue will focus on research related to maternal diet and health during pregnancy and implications on offspring health and development.





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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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