



Prevention, Health Care and Policies for Populations at High Risk for Overweight and Obesity

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Message from the Guest Editors

An obesogenic environment has developed that not only leads to reduced physical activity and increased sedentary behavior but, together with a perpetual supply of obesity-promoting ready-to-eat processed food, creates an almost insurmountable barrier to returning to a healthy lifestyle. Governments hardly fulfill their obligation to protect the population from harmful environmental conditions and an industrial food production that has gone astray. The lobby of the producers of adipogenic food and beverages not only massively resists any restrictions but also influences scientific research by targeted funding. Furthermore, excess weight is not sufficiently addressed in healthcare, while the focus is strongly on sequelae and preventive measures are underrepresented. The decline in life expectancy in the USA is a first indicator of political and social failure. It is now high time for governments to legislate, levy taxes, and take comprehensive measures to address the roots of this pandemic. This requires scientific evidence to identify the best and most cost-effective measures in prevention, healthcare, and policies.





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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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