



The Human Epoch: Cnidarians Holobiont Responses from Physiology to Epigenetic

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Message from the Guest Editor

The phylum of Cnidaria houses over 11,000 species of diverse aquatic animals that are most dominant in marine environments. Many cnidarians contain crucial endosymbionts that help to regulate their behavior, physiological, metabolic, and epigenetic responses. In the current age of the “Human Epoch”, cnidarians have become increasingly vulnerable to environmental stress, such as extreme weather events and climate change, as well as anthropogenic impacts, such as urban development and degrading habitats. There is evidence suggesting that cnidaria and their endosymbionts, though susceptible to stressful changes, have the adaptive capacity to acclimate under changing environmental conditions (e.g., rising temperatures).

This Special Issue aims to understand how the current Anthropocene is affecting and changing the associated holobiont of cnidarians in relation to their physiological and epigenetic responses, emphasizing the role that a changing environment plays in this process and what it could mean for the future of cnidarians.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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