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Introduction to Causal Inference Methods in Nutritional Research

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

A common goal of nutritional research is to identify causal effects of nutritional exposures on health outcomes, and to estimate their magnitude.

Observational data pose important challenges for causal inference, with effect estimates potentially biased by confounding (measured or unmeasured), measurement error and selection bias. Various statistical and epidemiological methods support causal inference from observation data, including causal diagrams, instrumental variable analysis, propensity scores and quantitative bias analyses. However, these methods also have underlying assumptions, require specific expertise and may not successfully remove all bias.

In this Special Issue, we highlight the value of causal inference methodology in nutritional research. We welcome reviews explaining causal inference methods for a nutritional audience, research articles showcasing the use of causal inference methods in nutritional research, and commentaries.

Dr. Elizabeth Holliday *Guest Editor*







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