



Current Understanding of Vitamin D in Chronic Diseases, Acute Respiratory Infections and All-Cause Mortality

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Sara Gandini

Dr. Harriet Johansson

Dr. Davide Serrano

Prof. Dr. Sara Raimondi

Dr.ssa Patrizia Gnagnarella

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Vitamin D, traditionally known as an essential nutrient, is a precursor of a potent steroid hormone that regulates a broad spectrum of physiological processes. In addition to its classical roles in bone metabolism, epidemiological, preclinical, and cellular research during the last several decades point to a key role in the prevention and treatment of many extra-skeletal diseases. Vitamin D deficiency has been associated with risks of morbidity and mortality from diabetes and cardiovascular disease, as well as with several cancers, including colorectal, breast, and melanoma cancer. Vitamin D has anti-inflammatory properties and has anti-proliferative effects on cancer cell lines, can inhibit tumor growth and tumor invasiveness, and promotes melanoma cell DNA repair.

This Issue aims to better define the role of vitamin D in chronic diseases, including cancer, acute respiratory infections, and all-cause mortality.

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Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Lluís Serra-Majem

1. Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red Fisiopatología de la Obesidad y la Nutrición (CIBEROBN), Institute of Health Carlos III, 28029 Madrid, Spain
2. Research Institute of Biomedical and Health Sciences (IUIBS), University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, 35001 Las Palmas, Spain
3. Preventive Medicine Service, Centro Hospitalario Universitario Insular Materno Infantil (CHUIMI), Canarian Health Service, 35016 Las Palmas, Spain

Prof. Dr. Maria Luz Fernandez

Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269, USA

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Nutrients Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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