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Nutritional Management of Intestinal Failure

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The main cause of intestinal failure (IF) in both adults and children is short bowel syndrome (SBS), which occurs after an extensive small bowel resection. Intestinal adaptation is the natural compensatory process that occurs after bowel resection. By effecting structural and functional changes, this process improves nutrient and fluid absorption in the remnant small bowel. Although not possible in all patients, the ultimate goal is to wean patients off parenteral nutrition (PN) by stimulating the intestinal adaptation, while ensuring adequate nutritional status and preventing complications. Many factors affect the process of adaptation, such as age of the patient, remaining small bowel length, the presence of the ileocecal valve and colon, and the underlying disease. Stimulating the remaining bowel with enteral nutrition (EN) can enhance adaptation. The aim of this Special Issue is to provide the newest insights about the nutritional strategies that best promote intestinal adaptation.



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