



nutrients



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The Role of Feeding Practice and Early Nutrition in Infant Growth, Metabolism and Body Composition

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Message from the Guest Editors

The purpose of this issue is to evaluate the long-term effects of early nutrition on quantitative and qualitative growth and metabolic outcome. Early malnutrition (e.g., stunting, obesity) can be associated with many adverse health outcomes, such as cardiovascular and metabolic-disease-related comorbidities later in life. Genome, epigenome, microbiome, and environmental conditions interact with nutrition and growth. Extremely, very, and low-birthweight infants are a heterogeneous and vulnerable group, and long-term studies on the effect of parenteral and enteral nutrition during the first months on body composition, metabolic outcome, and micronutrient status are still scarce. Term infants should be offered for taste development a variety of weaning foods starting at 4 to 6 months of age, but recent studies indicate that high animal (cow's milk) protein intake and frequent exposure to ultra-processed foods and sugary drinks during the first 2 years is associated with higher BMI and % body fat during later childhood and adolescence. We invite authors to contribute to this issue by submitting their original work, systematic analyses, and reviews related to the topic.



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Special *Issue*



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