

Special Issue

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

Message from the Guest Editors

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.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Sara Gandini

Dr. Harriet Johansson

Dr. Davide Serrano

Prof. Dr. Sara Raimondi

Dr.ssa Patrizia Gnagnarella

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Nutrients
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
nutrients@mdpi.com

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Message from the Editorial Board

Nutrients is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2009. *Nutrients* adheres to rigorous peer-review and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues related to the impacts of nutrients on human health. The Impact Factor of *Nutrients* has risen rapidly since its establishment and it is now ranked in the first quartile of journals publishing in the field of nutrition and dietetics research.

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 (UIBS), 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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