

## Special Issue

# Mental Health Assessments, Chronic Disease and Health Psychology

### Message from the Guest Editors

Suffering a chronic disease, even if the disease occurs acutely, can trigger intense emotional reactions in the patient and their family that can have lasting negative impact. For example, the occurrence of sadness, apathy, stress, anxiety, depression, anguish, and fear in chronic disease sufferers is common, in addition to feelings of guilt and that they have lost control of their lives. There is great scientific evidence that suggests the health and quality of life of patients with chronic diseases are influenced by psychological conditions. Significantly, health problems such as chronic pain, anxiety, depression, fatigue, cancer, cardiovascular disease, severe asthma, immune-mediated diseases such as inflammatory bowel disease, and transplant failure are all exacerbated by stress. Evaluation and psychological intervention in the care of chronic diseases can contribute positively to their treatment. Reducing the need for these patients to use health systems can assist in avoiding exacerbations and contribute to the improvement of quality of life, resulting in widespread positive effects.

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### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Discovery and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a scientific basis for decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards. *IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal.

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