Special Issue

Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases in Human Health

Message from the Guest Editors

Metabolic non-communicable diseases represent a major threat for human health in Western-lifestyle countries. Hormonal unbalances play a role in the pathogenesis of severe conditions such as obesity, diabetes, dyslipidemia, and metabolic syndrome. Dysfunctions affecting the main endocrine glands (pituitary, thyroid, adrenals, pancreas, etc.) have detrimental effects on metabolic regulation. Food intake and diet composition are the main signals for the production and secretion of gastrointestinal and pancreatic hormones that allow the proper digestion, absorption and metabolism of nutrients, thus regulating energy homeostasis. The gut microbiota represents a huge source of signaling molecules able to crosstalk with hormones from the host. Moreover, micronutrients such as vitamins and minerals are necessary for the proper function of the endocrine system. Finally, the recent obesogen hypothesis has underlined how endocrine disruptors found in food products can negatively influence lipid homeostasis, thus contributing to metabolic disease.

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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.

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