



*children*



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## Childhood *Helicobacter pylori* Infection: Treatment and Prevention

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

As we all know, *Helicobacter pylori* is the most common infection worldwide and associated with an increased risk of gastric cancer, being defined as a class I carcinogen by the World Health Organization. This infection is usually acquired during childhood, and if left untreated its persistence into adulthood is imminent. The development of effective prophylactic and therapeutic strategies represents a crucial need in pediatrics, being the single opportunity to decrease the incidence of gastric carcinogenesis during adulthood. Considering the complex pathway from simple infection towards gastric carcinogenesis, influenced by both host and bacterial features, multidisciplinary teamwork is required in order to clearly define the role of each component in this process and to face the challenge of preventing or successfully treating this infection.



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**Special** Issue