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Addiction, Substance Use, and Mental Illness: A Public Health Perspective

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Message from the Guest Editor

The interconnectedness between substance use disorders and mental illnesses is profound, rooted in shared causes encompassing genetic and epigenetic vulnerabilities, disruptions in pertinent brain regions, and environmental factors like early exposure to stress or trauma. It is crucial to recognize the symbiotic relationship between drug use and mental health, where one can significantly impact the other. There exists a reciprocal influence, with recognized risk factors associated with the onset of various mental illnesses contributing to drug use and addiction.

This Special Issue of *Healthcare* aims to publish original articles, critical reviews, research notes, and short communications that investigate and/or discuss the intersection between substance use behaviors and mental disorders.



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Special Issue