



## A Public Health View on Chronic Aging Diseases

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**31 October 2024**

### Message from the Guest Editors

According to our current understanding of the aging process, chronic, low-grade inflammation is a major driver of aging and the development of age-related medical conditions. The main stimuli which trigger receptors of the innate immune system, initiating pro-inflammatory pathways, come from damaged or structurally changed tissues, disturbed gut microbiota, and metabolic challenges associated with changes in the body's shape and glucose-mediated metabolism. In addition, chronic activation of the Th1/Th17 pro-inflammatory immune pathway may contribute to the maintenance of chronic inflammation. Changes in tissue structures and the replacement of functionally competent tissues with fibrotic tissues, as a consequence of immunologic and inflammatory reactions taking place in tissues and organs under aging conditions, lead to organ damage aggravation and the body's overall functional decline. Many details of this complex network, from the macro-environmental level to the organ/tissue and microbiology levels, are poorly understood. By calling for papers for this Special Issue, we aim to seek clarification of this complex issue.





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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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