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## Molecular and Pathophysiological Mechanisms Underlying Asthma and Allergy in Children

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**15 September 2024**

### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Despite many advances being made in the field of allergy and asthma research, our understanding of the mechanisms involved in the development, pathophysiology and specific clinical manifestations of allergic diseases is still insufficient. Allergic diseases in children are a major global health issue as their prevalence is on a continuous rise worldwide, and the key factors driving this increasing trend remain elusive. Asthma and allergic diseases are the most common chronic conditions in children and they have a significant impact on the quality of life of patients and their families and caregivers. Allergic diseases such as food allergy, atopic dermatitis, asthma and allergic rhinitis are prototypical examples of conditions in which pathogenesis is a result of a complex interaction of intrinsic (genetic and epigenetic) and environmental factors. Although novel treatments of allergic diseases (such as biologicals) have already been introduced into routine clinical practice, overall, the management of allergic diseases mostly relies on symptomatic treatment and allergen avoidance/elimination, which additionally reduces patients' quality of life.



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# Special Issue