



Social, Cultural and Economic Context of Health and Social Care

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Health policy issues will always be high on political agendas and demands on healthcare resources will always outstrip the available supply. Technological advancements, developments in medical science and increasing expectations of communities as to what is available from healthcare providers continue to focus attention on the healthcare dilemma, which means that choices will always have to be made regarding the level of resources allocated to healthcare and, within healthcare, which areas receive a greater share and which areas receive less. These challenges are manifest in a variety of personal, economic and social effects, which impinge, to varying degrees, on a range of stakeholders. Concerted action, which spans healthcare systems, other areas of government policy, non-governmental agencies, communities, patients and their families, with appropriate incentive schemes in place to address these challenges is therefore required. This Special Issue invites contributions that consider how these challenges might evolve, how they might be addressed and the evidence underpinning the effectiveness and efficiency of relevant interventions and policy initiatives.





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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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