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Breastmilk as a Model: Efforts to Improve Infant Formulae for Term Infants

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Message from the Guest Editor

The purpose of this Special Issue is to explore new insights in the field of infant formulae research and the efforts to get closer to breastmilk—the gold standard in infant nutrition.

Breastmilk provides an optimal composition of balanced nutrients for the term infant. In addition, human milk contains substances with bioactive, anti-infective, anti-inflammatory, and metabolic properties, causing a variety of sustainable short- and long-term effects in the growing infant that are not attainable when cow milk-based formula is fed. In the last decade, human milk research has focused on the immunomodulating effects of probiotics and oligosaccharides included in breastmilk and how breastmilk is “individualized” by the mother via a specific breast milk microbiome.

Infant formula purports to be a simulation of human milk or its suitability as a complete or partial substitute for human milk. A lot of efforts have been made to improve the composition of the formula and the immunomodulating properties to come closer to the gold standard.



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Special Issue



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