Nutrition of infants and young children

The journal is receiving many papers on childhood nutrition. The editorial board has therefore decided to dedicate a number of issues of the journal to research on children's nutritional health, interventions in children, and policy implications. This issue is especially targeting research on children of pre-school age or younger.

The first paper involves monitoring and surveillance from the perspective of child growth(1). It is a very important paper, pointing at the large number of countries that have adopted the new growth standards based on breast-fed children.

Assessment is dealt with in papers related to physical activity(2), possession score v. poverty index(3) and a nutrition knowledge questionnaire(4). Breast-feeding is of course an important part of this issue, looking at links between breast-feeding and adiposity(5) and the father's role in breast-feeding support(6).

The very hot topic of cognition and nutrition is dealt with in two papers(7,8). Childhood nutrition of course includes issues of undernutrition(9,10), stunting(11), general growth(12) and nutrient status(13,14). Among the interventions, the interested reader can find a folic acid intervention during pregnancy(8) and a nutrition and physical activity intervention in 2–4-year-olds(15). Effects of a change in foods approved by the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) on food sales are described(16), and last but not least, an important paper on the targeting of children in marketing of foods(17) is included in this issue. We wish you a good time reading this issue; and trust that you will find good use for the included papers and perhaps of the complete issue in teaching or in your own research.

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References
