



BioMed Research International

Special Issue on  
**Advances in Pediatric Critical Care Medicine**

# CALL FOR PAPERS

Over the past decades substantial advances in pediatric critical care medicine have been made in highly industrialized countries. In parallel with these improvements, the delivery of pediatric critical care medicine has become more standardized as reflected by a series of guidelines published by various leading critical care societies. Conversely, due to poor medical and financial resources, there is a substantial shortage of pediatric intensive care units in developing countries.

With the advent of new technologies (e.g., ECMO, mini-VADs, and new organ transplant techniques), sophisticated equipment (e.g., NIRS and noninvasive hemodynamic monitoring), and better training and medical care of the critically ill child, we are now capable of offering a broad range of therapeutic options to an even broader range of patients (e.g., acutely ill child versus acute-on chronic failure in children with underlying (life-limiting) chronic diseases).

However, with these advances—often invasive and painful—new questions and ethical dilemmas will arise (i.e., who should be admitted to the PICU and what treatment options should be offered to what child). Other important fields full of controversy pertain to end-of-life decisions, organ transplantation, and research in the PICU.

To improve further the quality of PICU treatment, it will be crucial to generate sophisticated data on the treatment of severely sick children. This will best be realized in randomized controlled trials. However, the realization of RCTs in children in emergency situations is often difficult and controversial (e.g., lack of informed consent).

The main focus of this special issue will be on new technological developments and ethical issues in pediatric critical care treatment. The special issue will serve as an international forum for researchers and practitioners.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ New technological developments in the PICU
- ▶ Realization of pediatric intensive care infrastructure and provision of pediatric intensive care in resource-poor countries
- ▶ The chronically ill child in the PICU (“acute-on-chronic failure”)
- ▶ Organ transplantation
- ▶ End-of-life decision in the PICU
- ▶ Research in pediatric emergency medicine

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/bmri/critical.care/apcc/>.

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