Prof. Martine Vrijheid

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Prof. Martine Vrijheid is Research Professor and co-leader of the Childhood and Environment Programme at the Institute of Global Health (ISGlobal) in Barcelona. Her research focuses on the effects of environmental (chemical, physical) exposures on child health and development, with a specific focus on obesity and cardiometabolic outcomes in children, and more recently, on the integration of the exposome concept in this field. She is co-PI of the INMA birth cohort study in Spain. She was coordinator of the HELIX (Human Early Life Exposome) project, a large European collaborative project involving birth cohorts in 6 European countries, in which she spearheaded the push to collect more complete and accurate data on multiple exposures and their molecular omics imprints during early-life critical periods. Recently, she obtained the ATHLETE (Advancing Tools for Human Early Life course Exposome Research and Translation) project, which will follow-up the exposome work by integrating a larger set of European birth cohorts into an early-life exposome data infrastructure, providing new longitudinal evidence linking the exposome to child and adolescent health, and integrating intervention studies and translational tools. Finally, she has been instrumental in the building of a network of birth cohorts in Europe through her coordination of the CHICOS project, resulting in a network for data sharing and harmonization across more than 30 European birth cohorts, which is now being continued and formalised.
under the LifeCycle project. She has published more than 245 scientific articles, cited more than 14,000 times, and has an H-factor of 59 (Scopus).