



DISABILITY AND HEALTH JOURNAL

The Official Journal of the [American Association on Health and Disability](#)

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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DESCRIPTION

Disability and Health Journal is a scientific, scholarly, and multidisciplinary journal for reporting original contributions that advance knowledge in **disability** and **health**. Topics may be related to **global health, quality of life**, and specific **health conditions** as they relate to disability. Such contributions include:

- Reports of empirical research on the characteristics of persons with disabilities, environment, health outcomes, and determinants of health
- Reports of empirical research on the Systematic or other evidence-based reviews and tightly conceived theoretical interpretations of research literature
- Reports of empirical research on the Evaluative research on new interventions, technologies, and programs
- Reports of empirical research on the Reports on issues or policies affecting the health and/or quality of life for persons with disabilities, using a scientific base.

Disability and Health Journal describes and analyzes health and health related states using conceptual frameworks, including the international classification of functioning, disability and health. The Journal provides a forum for peer reviewed articles that identify, evaluate and promote existing and emerging models of healthcare delivery and/or health promotion which contribute to the improvements of health across the lifespan.

The Journal focuses on individual health, public health, rehabilitation, health promotion, and community participation (e.g. employment, recreation, personal relationships and access to services).

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

Disability and Health Journal is a scientific, scholarly, and multidisciplinary journal for reporting original contributions that advance knowledge in disability and health. Topics may be related to global health, quality of life, and specific health conditions as they relate to disability. Such contributions include reports on:

- Empirical research on the characteristics of persons with disabilities, environment, health outcomes, and determinants of health;
- Systematic or other evidence-based reviews and tightly conceived theoretical interpretations of research literature;
- Evaluative research on new interventions, technologies, and programs;
- Issues or policies affecting the health and/or quality of life for persons with disabilities, using a scientific base.

Disability and Health Journal describes and analyzes health and health related states using conceptual frameworks, including the International Classification of Functioning (ICF), and the social and medical models of disability. The Journal provides a forum for peer reviewed articles that identify, evaluate and promote existing and emerging models of healthcare delivery and/or health promotion that contribute to the improvements of health across the lifespan.

The Journal focuses on individual health, public health, health promotion, health education, wellness, community participation (e.g., employment, recreation, personal relationships and access to services) and tertiary prevention (e.g., rehabilitation, reducing the incidence of secondary conditions).

Types of Articles

Original Research. Original Articles are scientific reports of the results of original epidemiologic (including secondary data analysis) and clinical research. The text is limited to 4000 words (not including abstract, acknowledgments, figure legends, tables, references, and ancillary online-only material), with a structured abstract of 250 words or less (see instructions below for structure), and a maximum of 6 tables and/or figures total. Research reports must contain sufficient information to allow readers to understand how a study was designed and conducted, including variable definitions, instruments and other measures, and analytic techniques. We recommend reviewing guidelines and checklists related to specific research at the EQUATOR Network to ensure sufficient detail is provided in the manuscript (<http://www.equator-network.org>). **NEW:** Submitting a checklist such as that from STROBE is now a requirement for submission (see editorials published in the April 2014 issue). Download the checklist through <http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/strobe/>, complete it by adding a column that specifies where in the manuscript each component has been followed, and upload it with your submission.

Brief Reports. Brief Reports can provide their results clearly in a shorter format or represent pilot work, small number of subjects (including a case report if it represents a unique circumstance or experience), new methodology, or nonstandardized measurements. The text is limited to 2500 words (not including abstract, acknowledgments, figure legends, tables, references, and ancillary online-only material) and a maximum of 3 tables and/or figures total. A structured abstract of 250 words or less is required (see instructions below for structure).

Evidence-based Review Articles. Review articles should be developed with a search methodology and review process. The type of review being reported must be named (see [Grant et al. A typology of reviews: an analysis of 14 review types and associated methodologies. Health Info Libr J 2009;26: 91-108](#)). Methods must be described, including type of search, inclusion/exclusion criteria, review methods or process, and determination of levels of evidence or scientific rigor. Literature or narrative reviews that cite multiple references found through a library search are not considered evidence-based reviews. A structured abstract of 250 words or less is required (see instructions below for structure). The text is limited to a maximum of 5000 words of text (not including abstract, acknowledgments, figure legends, tables, references, and ancillary online-only material), with no more than a total of 6 tables and/or figures.

Commentary. Manuscripts are editor-solicited or negotiated after correspondence with Editors.

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Authors wishing to submit an unsolicited Commentary should send proposals with a brief, 250-word synopsis of the planned Commentary to disabilityandhealthjnl@gmail.com for pre-submission approval by the Editors.

Subject matter will be opinions and judgments that are grounded in theory or trends and may include a single view or a point/counterpoint format. The purpose is to bring to light leading edge concepts and to stimulate further thought and research. No Abstract is required. The text is limited to a maximum of 2500 words of text (not including references).

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Editorial. Editorials are solicited by the Editors.

Letters to the Editor. Letters discussing a recently published article in the Journal should be received within 4 weeks of the article's publication. The text is limited to a maximum of 500 words of text, one table and/or figure, and 5 references; no abstract is needed. Ensure that the article about which you are writing is included in the list of references. Letters not meeting these specifications are generally not considered.

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Except where explicitly stated otherwise, *Disability and Health Journal* conforms to the guidelines set forth by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE). See Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication (February 2006); available at <http://icmje.org>

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PREPARATION

Use of Word Processing Software

NEW: At initial submission, the manuscript file (without author identifying information) may be submitted as a single Word or PDF file, including references, figure legends, figures, and tables; the Title Page with author identifying information must be uploaded separately. All manuscript components need to be included to allow for evaluation of your manuscript. If the editors determine that the work is potentially publishable, source files of the manuscript, figures, and tables will be required as well as other submission elements such as permissions as needed (see below). Include a cover letter and a title page with counts as specified below. Authors are urged to use appropriate guidelines when preparing a manuscript (<http://www.equator-network.org>), and completion of a guideline checklist is now required for original research submissions. Please note that most manuscripts submitted to *Disability and Health Journal* will likely use the STROBE guideline.

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Article Structure

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Please include a separate title page with the full names of authors, degrees, academic or professional affiliation, and complete address, phone number, and e-mail address of the corresponding author. Up to five key words should be indicated on the title page. The title page must include publishable statements of funding or conflicts of interest. Note any previous presentation of abstracts at meetings regarding the research. (See the section on Disclosure of Financial Interests and Potential Conflicts of Interest below for further information.) Acknowledgments (which typically appear before the references) may be placed on the title page to maintain author anonymity.

The title page must include a word count for the abstract, a complete manuscript word count (to include body text and figure legends), number of references, and number of figures/tables. Please see below for the maximum length of submissions by article type.

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For Original Research, Brief Reports, and Review Articles, abstracts should not exceed 250 words and should be written in the form of:

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Objective/Hypothesis. This is a clear statement of the precise objective or question addressed in the paper. If a hypothesis was tested, it should be stated.

Methods. The basic design of the study and its duration should be described. The methods used should be stated and the statistical data/methods provided.

Results. The main results of the study should be given in narrative form. Any measurements or other information that may require explanation should be defined. Any important information not included in the presentation of results should be declared. Levels of statistical significance should be indicated, as well as any other factors crucial to the outcome of the study.

Conclusions. Conclusions of the study that are directly supported by the evidence reported should be given along with the clinical application, and speculation about the potential impact on current thinking.

Other article types should have a brief narrative summary without subheadings that does not exceed 150 words.

Subdivision

The manuscript files for Original Research and Brief Reports should be structured with sections entitled and ordered as follows: Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgements (if not on title page), References, Figure Legends. Please begin sections on separate pages. Acronyms must be spelled out on first use in the text, and where used in tables or figures, in each of their legends/titles/footnotes.

Introduction

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

Methods

Provide sufficient detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section.

Appendices

If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on.

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