**DESCRIPTION**

*Body Image* is an international, peer-reviewed journal that publishes high-quality, scientific articles on body image and human physical appearance. Body image represents a person’s "inside view" of their body—that is, their feelings, perceptions, thoughts, and beliefs about their body that impact how they behave toward it (Cash, 2004). While physical appearance is an important aspect of body image, it is not the only aspect, as embodiment (how a person uses their body to engage with the world) and focusing on (and appreciating) body functionality are additional aspects of body image. We invite contributions from a broad range of disciplines - psychological science, other social and behavioral sciences, and medical and health sciences. We have a weight-inclusive focus rather than a weight-normative or weight-centric focus (see https://www.hindawi.com/journals/jobe/2014/983495/ for an explanation).

*Body Image* publishes a variety of article types, including original research articles, brief research reports, theoretical and review papers (systematic reviews and meta-analyses), scale development and adaptation articles, replication studies, protocol articles, methodological innovations that could be used to advance body image research, unexpected/null results articles, and ideas worth researching. We encourage articles that center minoritized populations. Consistent with the Open Science initiative, we publish articles based on a strong theoretical rationale and scientific design rather than whether findings are statistically significant.

We also encourage review-based and empirical-based special issues, especially those that bridge subfields and disciplines.

Suitable topics for submission of manuscripts include (but are not limited to):

- The effects of body image and physical characteristics (e.g., body size, attractiveness, physical disfigurements or disorders) on psychological functioning, interpersonal processes, and quality of life;
- Body image and physical appearance in the full range of medical and allied health contexts; body image in diverse cultural contexts;
- Development, validation, and adaptation (e.g., translation) of assessments of the body image construct; factors that influence positive and negative body image development;
- Stigmatization and discrimination based on appearance and/or body function;
- Adaptive and maladaptive body image processes and their clinically relevant consequences on psychosocial functioning and quality of life;
- Relationship of body image to behavioral variables (e.g., exercise and other physical activity, eating and weight-control behaviors, grooming and appearance-modifying behaviors, and social
behaviors); o How body image may shape the ways we engage our bodies with the world (i.e., embodiment)

• Scientific evaluation of interventions to promote positive body image or to prevent or treat body image difficulties and disorders.

Impartiality statement regarding citations. We, the editorial team, strongly encourage authors to cite the highest quality work believed to be most relevant to their article; we are impartial to the use of citations from Body Image versus other journals. We review and accept articles based on their scientific rationale, merits, design, analysis, and interpretation rather than the source of their citations.

Note regarding string citations. We encourage authors to avoid excessive string citations, whereby multiple citations support a single statement, finding, or proposition, when such citations would be superfluous. In many cases, one citation will suffice, and this citation should be the best supporting reference for that statement, finding, or proposition. All important previous work can be included, and if a cite is important, there often will be additional text that accompanies it. Please note that we are okay with the overall number of references.

Of note, the recommendation to avoid string citations does not apply to:

1. Statements that include more than one finding. For example, "Over the past 10 years, researchers in a number of countries have begun to explore the relationship between positive body image and psychological well-being" needs multiple citations because authors are referring to researchers and countries (both plural. However, reference to all work that has explored this relationship is probably not needed.

As another example, "research shows that body dissatisfaction is correlated with disordered eating, anxiety, and depression" may include multiple citations, with different citations supporting different aspects of this statement.

2. Systematic reviews and meta-analyses whereby the citations are linked to relevant themes/data that are included in the analysis.

The presence of string citations alone is not a reason to reject an article. If submitted articles contain string citations, the editorial team will simply note this, and it will be up to the author to decide whether to retain or remove citations if asked to revise and resubmit their article.

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The journal publishes

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   - **Systematic reviews / meta-analyses** (please follow PRISMA checklist: http://www.prisma-statement.org)
   - **Methodological / protocol articles** (articles that explicate an innovative research study design in which data are currently being collected)
   - **Unexpected / null results articles** (articles grounded in extant theory that have a sound methodological design and adequate statistical power and are analyzed appropriately, but primary hypotheses were not supported)
   - **Scale development / adaptation articles** (multi-study/sample articles that investigate the psychometric properties of a newly developed or existing scale relevant to body image; scale translations and applications to different samples are welcome)
   - **Replication studies** (consistent with Open Science initiatives, we encourage articles that replicate--or fail to replicate--existing body image research)
   - **Theoretical review articles** (typically invited; however, if you have an idea, propose it to the Editor-in-Chief)

Please choose the article type that is the best fit for your article (we realize that some articles may fit into more than one type).

While full-length articles have no explicit limits in terms of numbers of words, tables/figures, and references, an article's length must be justified by its empirical strength and the significance of its contribution to the literature.

2. **Shorter communications of the following types:**
   - **Brief research reports** (articles with a more defined and/or limited focus than original research articles)
   - **Ideas worth researching** (articles that propose a novel idea for advancing research on body image)
   - **Methodological innovations** (articles that discuss the application of a novel statistical approach to the study of body image)

Guidelines for short communications are <= 3000 words from Introduction through Discussion and <= 30 references. There are no limits on tables and figures.

3. **Themed special issues**
   - **Theoretical special issue** (a collection of review articles from experts in the body image field that focus on a relevant body image topic)
   - **Empirical special issue** (a collection of empirical articles that offer novel insights into a relevant body image topic)
   - **Data set special issue** (a collection of empirical articles that emerge from the same, large data set; each article within the issue must be incremental and overlapping data between articles must be minimal)

We especially encourage special issues that bridge body image theory and research with other disciplines and social science constructs.

Please contact Editor-in-Chief to propose your idea for a special issue.

If you are proposing a theoretical or empirical special issue and it is accepted, you will be the Guest Editor(s) and work with the Editor-in-Chief (or an Associate Editor) and our Special Issue Journal Manager to develop and prepare your special issue.

If you are proposing a data set special issue, then Guest Editors will be appointed that manage your issue and they will work with the Editor-in-Chief (or an Associate Editor) and our Special Issue Journal Manager.

For each paper type, we would like authors to know that we are impartial regarding the source of citations and we recommend against excessive string citations.

**Impartiality statement regarding citations.** We, the editorial team, strongly encourage authors to cite the highest quality work believed to be most relevant to their article; we are impartial to the use of citations from Body Image versus other journals. We review and accept articles based on their scientific rationale, merits, design, analysis, and interpretation rather than the source of their citations.
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Electronic artwork

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• Aim to use the following fonts in your illustrations: Arial, Courier, Times New Roman, Symbol, or use fonts that look similar.
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**You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.**

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**Formats**

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