GENERAL HOSPITAL PSYCHIATRY
Psychiatry, Medicine and Primary Care

DESCRIPTION

General Hospital Psychiatry explores the many linkages among psychiatry, medicine, and primary care. In emphasizing a biopsychosocial approach to illness and health, the journal provides a forum for professionals with clinical, academic, and research interests in psychiatry’s role in the mainstream of medicine.

AUDIENCE

Psychiatrists, General and Family Practitioners, Internists, Nurses, Pharmacologists, Psychologists and Health Care Para-Professionals.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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Aims and Scope of General Hospital Psychiatry
General Hospital Psychiatry explores the many linkages among psychiatry, medicine, and primary care. The journal provides a forum for professionals with clinical, academic, and research interests in psychiatry’s role in the mainstream of medicine. The journal expands on traditional models of consultation-liaison, inpatient, and outpatient services in the general hospital to address all aspects of ambulatory, inpatient, emergency, and community care. Examination of novel assessment methods or intervention techniques, and reports from intervention trials that are related to the interface between medicine and psychiatry, are especially relevant to the journal’s objectives, as are examinations of these phenomena on cost, cost-effectiveness, and public policy.

General Hospital Psychiatry will publish original research articles, topical reviews (especially systematic reviews and meta-analyses), and brief communications on: (1) biopsychosocial approaches to medicine, including models of collaborative and integrated care, (2) inpatient and outpatient consultation-liaison psychiatry, (3) psychosomatic medicine (including research on somatic symptoms, assessment methods in general medical settings, and assessment and treatment in persons with specific medical conditions), (4) inpatient, emergency, and crisis psychiatry, (5) the relationship of psychiatric services to general medical systems (e.g., primary care clinics, hospitals, local/national policy), (6) new directions in medical education that stress psychiatry’s role in primary care, family practice, and continuing education, and (7) health psychology.

The journal will not accept case report submissions as of December 2015, but can consider for publication articles that include discussion of one or more cases as part of a comprehensive topical review (typically 50-75+ references).

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Regular article (including Reviews): 4000 word limit (excluding cover letter, abstract, acknowledgements, references, tables, and figures), Maximum of 4 tables and/or figures (combined)
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or preferentially a categorical variable (e.g., mortality, rehospitalization, remission). Categorization of continuous variables (e.g., at median split, ordinal categories, etc.) may be appropriate for secondary analyses. Reporting. In the text of the Results section (or Tables), the primary measure of effect (e.g., between-group difference, regression coefficient, odds ratio) should be listed, along with confidence interval; effect sizes should also be listed when relevant. \( p \) values should be reported to 2 significant figures, with \( p \) values < .001 reported as such. Covariates. It is vital to control for relevant covariates, especially in observational studies. However, in regression and related multivariable models, covariates should ideally be identified \textit{a priori} based on prior literature and/or clinical factors. Selection of covariates from a large pool, post hoc, using univariate tests is less desirable although it may be warranted in preliminary or exploratory analyses. Automated stepwise selection procedures (forward or backward) for covariates are discouraged. In addition, authors should avoid overfitting of statistical models and use rules of thumb for ratios of covariates to observations (e.g., 10 observations for each variable in a regression model). " Multiple comparisons. Control for multiple comparisons is a complex and controversial issue, yet should always be addressed and discussed when appropriate. For example, using \( P < .05 \) as a threshold for significance is appropriate regarding a pre-specified primary outcome but is often insufficiently conservative when multiple comparisons are reported.

\textit{Reviews and meta-analyses}

These articles also have a 4000 word limit, though on occasion particularly complex or comprehensive reviews may be longer with editorial permission. Preference is given to systematic reviews and meta-analyses, though other clinically relevant reviews on topics of interest to the journal’s readership will be considered.

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