HEALTH & PLACE
An International Journal

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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DESCRIPTION

Health & Place is an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to the study of the role of place in understanding health and health care.

Recent years have seen closer links evolving between health geography, medical sociology, health policy, public health and epidemiology, amongst other disciplines. The journal reflects these convergences, which emphasise differences in health and health-related experiences between places, the social, cultural and political processes shaping the contexts for health, the health-related experience of healthcare provision, the development of health care for places, and the innovative methodologies and theories underpinning the study of these issues.

The journal publishes original research articles, short communications, opinion papers and reviews relevant to any aspects of health where place is a central theme in the research. It brings together contributors from geography, sociology, social policy, population health science, public health and other related disciplines.

We welcome research that offers comparative perspectives on the difference that place makes to the incidence of ill-health, the structuring of health-related behaviour, the provision and use of health services, and the development of health policy. We are interested in submissions informed by a theoretical framework, that inform policy and practice, and of general interest to an international readership.

At a time when the role of place is increasingly recognised as being crucial to enhancing population health and reducing health inequity, Health & Place provides a forum for summarizing developments and reporting on the latest research findings. The journal seeks to maintain the highest standards of peer-reviewed excellence, as well as to provide a forum for interdisciplinary debate on the connections between health and place.

AUDIENCE

Academics, researchers and students interested in the geography and sociology of health and health care, health policy, public health and epidemiology. Policy makers, health care managers and health professionals concerned with locality planning, health care targeting and the geographical impact of health policy.
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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Ongoing research projects include climate and Buruli Ulcer in Africa, schistosomiasis in Ghana, urban slum health, and computational epidemiology – employing computer simulations to understand geographic patterns of disease spread. Dr. Oppong teaches a variety of courses including Quantitative Methods in Geography, Medical Geography, and Contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Oppong advises graduate student research in areas that correspond with his own research interests. Recent theses include a GIS for
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To find out more, please visit the Preparation section below.

INTRODUCTION
The journal is an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to the study of all aspects of health and health care in which place or location matters.

Recent years have seen closer links evolving between medical geography, medical sociology, health policy, public health and epidemiology. The journal reflects these convergences, which emphasise differences in health and health care between places, the experience of health and care in specific places, the development of health care for places, and the methodologies and theories underpinning the study of these issues.

The journal brings together international contributors from geography, sociology, social policy and public health. It offers readers comparative perspectives on the difference that place makes to the incidence of ill-health, the structuring of health-related behaviour, the provision and use of health services, and the development of health policy.

At a time when health matters are the subject of ever-increasing attention, Health & Place provides accessible and readable papers summarizing developments and reporting the latest research findings.

Types of paper
Articles should normally be 4000-6000 words long (excluding figures, tables and references), although articles longer than 6000 words will be accepted on an occasional basis, if the topic demands this length of treatment. Authors are responsible for ensuring that all manuscripts (whether original or revised) are accurately typed before final submission. Manuscripts will be returned to the author with a set of instructions if they are not submitted according to our style.

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The Opinion Paper section exists for the expression of opinion and as a forum for debate (1000-2000 words).

Review articles may provide scholarly assessments of new policies or practices, or academic overviews of new areas of study (5000-6000 words).

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Our policy on special issues is that we will not do complete special issues, rather we will consider special sections of 4-10 papers. Specials need to be proposed to the Editor in Chief and will be evaluated by Assistant Editors and one or more Board Members and/or external advisors. Proposals should normally include abstracts and must include a clearly argued case for the special. Exceptionally we will consider specials based around a call-for-papers. Evaluation will focus on the coherence, topicality and market for the special. We expect specials to pursue an agenda and to be introduced by an agenda-setting paper, which could take the form of a guest editorial. All papers in specials, including the lead paper should be submitted in the normal way and will undergo normal peer review. We anticipate one special per year.

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For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

Definitions
Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/ have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

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• The abstract must also contain keywords and common phrases for the subject area, perhaps using wording from the title. These carefully chosen keywords and phrases can also be emphasised in the text, however please do this with caution as some search engines can reject overly repetitive webpages.

Highlights
Highlights are mandatory for this journal as they help increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the example Highlights.

Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point).

Abstract
A concise and factual abstract of about 100 words is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should
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Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, ‘and’, ‘of’). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

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