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DESCRIPTION

The *Journal of Transport & Health* (JTH) is devoted to publishing research that advances our knowledge on the many interactions between transport and health and the policies that affect these. In general, we will prioritise papers **that evaluate or inform the development of** interventions and policies to improve population health, or that make a genuinely original contribution, rather than being basic descriptive studies. The journal aims to cover transport and health issues in all countries; in general, studies should have a context, or lessons, that can be transferred to other locations. Interactions between transport and health include, for instance: the impacts on public health and inequalities of: active modes of transport; noise and air pollution generated by transport; road travel injuries (see below); community severance; road danger and its reduction (see below): actual safety and security hazards associated with transport; perceptions of danger and factors affecting these; factors affecting transport choices: urban form; location and accessibility of health and other facilities; age, gender, health and disability; socio-economic inequalities; rurality; leisure travel; synergies between sustainability and health impacts of transport; economic and health impact assessments methodological advances, including considerations of complex systems; and policies and interventions that promote or discourage healthy and sustainable transport modes, transport systems and communities (see below).

We wish the *Journal of Transport & Health* to publish articles at the cutting-edge that are significant for policy and practice. The readership is international and multi-disciplinary; articles need to be understood by intelligent readers from a broad range of specialties and places. We are particularly keen to encourage submissions that are cross-disciplinary or inter-disciplinary. The journal has three particular aims: to promote dialogue and collaboration between the two research communities it serves; to improve the methods and the quality and appropriate use of data to better understand the relationships between transport and health; and to encourage transfer of research into practice.

Is my manuscript in scope for *Journal of Transport & Health*?

The journal's original scope remains largely unchanged, but with the experience of the past few years, we now offer more guidance for articles about active travel (walking and cycling, including to/from public transport [transit]) and road travel collisions and injury. We seek papers that advance our knowledge or use innovative designs and analyses that expand and contribute significantly to an already established literature.

Active Travel

There is a well-established connection between active travel, primarily walking and cycling, and population health. We are looking for innovative designs and analyses that expand and contribute significantly to an already established literature. We encourage submission of papers that **evaluate or inform the development of interventions** and policies to improve population health or that make a genuinely original contribution, rather than being basic, descriptive studies, even if from countries without previous published papers on the topic. In general, we will no longer consider cross-sectional analyses of children's school travel, even if yours is the first such study in a particular location. Studies producing substantial, transferable new information may be considered.

Road travel injuries (fatal and non-fatal)

There are many journals that focus on transport crashes and injuries, any unintentional injuries, and engineering; we do not wish to duplicate these. We are therefore restricting the scope of our journal to those that are more public health-focused, are more cross-disciplinary, and do not have an engineering or laboratory basis. We will no longer consider manuscripts that relate to collisions or crash severity that have little or no health focus. We will continue to consider manuscripts that focus on: road travel injuries, both fatal and non-fatal, and their long-term health consequences; and social and environmental determinants of road travel injury and health outcomes (acute and/or chronic). In general, we will not consider manuscripts where numbers are used rather than rates when exploring associations with danger or safety, whether as a cross-sectional association or in longitudinal studies examining change. The fact that more people are injured where, or when, more people travel is not very enlightening. In countries without suitable travel-related denominator data (distances travelled, time spent travelling, or number of trips), population-based denominators will be accepted. For example, when describing the proportion of casualties by age or by travel mode, it is important to compare those with the proportions in the general population. We require all authors to avoid the word 'accident' except where it is in the reference of a document they are citing. Although it means 'unintentional', it is often interpreted as meaning 'unavoidable'. More importantly, 'accident' is sometimes used to refer to the event (crash/collision/fall) and sometimes to the consequence (casualty/injury/fatality). It is not always clear which is meant. See [BMJ 2001;322:1320](#) for a longer explanation.

Your manuscript is definitely not suitable for the Journal of Transport and Health if it does not focus on transport and health.

Your manuscript is probably unsuitable for the Journal of Transport & Health: it is full of acronyms; or there are three or more pages of formulae.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

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Types of article

Articles should be 3000–6000 words long, although shorter articles will be considered. 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.

Shorter items

Authors are also welcome to submit Short Reports for articles describing original research that is not suitable for a full length article (for example, report of proof-of-principle, early findings, or descriptive analyses of information that is not novel in a global sense but is new for that region).

The Viewpoint section exists for the expression of opinion, and allows authors to submit referenced material which might not be appropriate for full-length articles but which contains ideas worthy of publication (1500–2000 words).

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Ensure that the following items are present:

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- The manuscript has been anonymised and a separate Title file prepared.
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- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements.
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Have you explained the significance of your contribution?

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Have you identified future developments that may result from your work?

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Have you included information in the discussion and in the highlights that is relevant to policy-makers and/or practitioners?

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Most manuscripts that are not rejected are returned with the decision 'Revise and resubmit'. Authors should note that this does not mean that a revised manuscript will automatically be accepted.

When submitting a revision, files to be uploaded include:

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- Revised manuscript with no tracked changes showing
- Response to the editor's and reviewers' comments (include those comments, each followed by your response to that comments).

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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Data access and retention

Authors may be asked to provide the research data supporting their paper for editorial review and/or to comply with the open data requirements of the journal. Authors should be prepared to provide access to such data, while taking into account the rules on privacy and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), and should be prepared to retain such data for a reasonable number of years after publication.

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If the work involves chemicals, procedures or equipment that have any unusual hazards inherent in their use, the author must clearly identify these in the manuscript.

If the work involves the use of human participants, the author should ensure that the manuscript contains a statement that all procedures were performed in compliance with relevant laws and institutional guidelines and that the appropriate institutional committee(s) have approved them. Authors should also include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human participants. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

For human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans [<https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-declaration-of-helsinki-ethical-principles-for-medical-research-involving-human-subjects>]. Appropriate consents, permissions and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details or other personal information or images of patients and any other individuals in an Elsevier publication [<https://www.elsevier.com/about/policies/patient-consent>]. Written consents must be retained by the author and copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained must be provided to Elsevier on request [<https://www.elsevier.com/about/policies/patient-consent>].

As part of the submission process, the corresponding author will be required to answer two mandatory questions:

1. Does the manuscript report work based on data collected from human participants? [Yes / No]
2. If yes, confirm that your manuscript includes a statement that all procedures were performed in compliance with relevant laws and institutional guidelines and that the appropriate institutional committee(s) have approved them.

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All authors are requested to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest including any financial, personal or other relationships with other people or organizations within three years of beginning the submitted work that could inappropriately influence, or be perceived to influence, their work. See also <https://www.elsevier.com/conflictsofinterest>. Further information can be found at: http://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/286/supporthub/publishing.

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Submission of an article implies that the work described:

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To verify originality, your article will be checked by the originality detection service [CrossCheck](#).

Work that has been published as a report that has not been peer-reviewed will sometimes be considered as eligible for publication in the journal; authors should contact the editor to discuss this, as well as mentioning any previous publication in the covering letter. Mention publication as a conference abstract in the covering letter.

See the editor's [Tips](#) on writing for this journal about plagiarism (including self-plagiarism).

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So we suggest strongly that you do these now before preparing your manuscript!

Peer review

This journal operates a double blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of one independent expert reviewer to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. [More information on types of peer review](#).

Double-blind review

This journal uses double-blind review, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. [More information](#) is available on our website. To facilitate this, please include the following separately:

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Use of word processing software

It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the [Guide to Publishing with Elsevier](#)). Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

Line numbers must be included (continuous numbering is preferred, or restart each page plus provide page numbers as well).

Article structure

Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

The following are examples of sections / headings that may be relevant for your article. Most articles will not need all of these.

Introduction

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

Material and methods

Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

Theory/calculation

A Theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is occasionally appropriate. Avoid excessive citations and discussion of published literature but you do need to discuss your results in the context of what others have found. You should generally include a strengths and limitations subsection.

You must include at least a paragraph in the discussion about the relevance of your study findings to policy-makers and practitioners, unless there is none, for example for some methodological papers.

Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion 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. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

Essential title file information

- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.

- **Author names and affiliations.** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.

- **Corresponding author.** Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. **Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author.**

- **Present/permanent address.** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes. The Journal of Transport and Health now uses double-blind reviewing, so the Title page, together with any funding information, acknowledgements, or other information that may indicate the identity of the authors or their institution must be uploaded as a separate document from the main manuscript. The main manuscript must be anonymised.

Highlights

Highlights are optional yet highly encouraged for this journal, as they 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 examples here: [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

Research articles, short reports, and reviews: A concise and factual structured abstract is required of 200-300 words. Using appropriate sub-headings, the abstract should provide the context or background for the research and should state briefly its purpose, basic procedures (selection of study participants or areas, observational and analytical methods), main findings (giving specific effect sizes and their confidence intervals or statistical significance, if possible), and main conclusions. It should emphasize new and important aspects of the study or observations. In most cases, the headings will be **Introduction, Methods** (which could include **Setting and Population**), **Results, and Conclusions**, but this may vary depending on the specific study being reported.

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