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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.

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INTRODUCTION

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