PUBLIC HEALTH IN PRACTICE
Putting research into action

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DESCRIPTION

An official journal of the The Royal Society for Public Health and a sister journal of Public Health.

Public Health in Practice is a gold open access journal in the field of population health. The journal invites papers from across the broad public health subject area, with a particular focus on public health in practice, emerging topics, and policy debates.

The journal will publish research study types, from study protocols through to meta-analyses, including commentaries and short communications. Whilst research focusing on the practical basis of public health delivery or providing a foundational understanding of theoretical issues in the field is the journal's core interest, robust and ethically sound articles on any public health topic are welcome.

These can include (but are not limited to):

- Public health practice and impact
- Applied epidemiology
- Need or impact assessments
- Health service effectiveness, management and re-design
- Health protection including control of communicable diseases
- Health promotion and disease prevention
- Evaluation of public health programmes or interventions
- Public health governance, audit and quality
- Public health law and ethics
- Public health policy and comparisons
- Capacity in public health systems and workforce

The target market of the journal is researchers, practitioners, and policymakers who are engaged in public health practice, teaching, and research.

Public Health in Practice adheres to strict ethical publication guidelines and actively supports a culture of inclusive and representative publication. For any submission enquiries, please contact the Editorial Office.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

Aims
Public Health in Practice is a gold open access journal in the field of population health. The journal will accept papers from across the broad public health subject area, with a particular focus on public health in practice, emerging topics, and policy debates.

Scope
Public Health in Practice will publish research study types, from study protocols through to meta-analyses, including commentaries and case reports. Whilst research focusing on the practical basis of public health delivery or providing a foundational understanding of theoretical issues in the field is the journal's core interest, robust and ethically sound articles on any public health topic are welcome.

These can include (but are not limited to):

- Public health practice and impact
- Applied epidemiology
- Need or impact assessments
- Health service effectiveness, management and re-design
- Health protection including control of communicable diseases
- Health promotion and disease prevention
- Evaluation of public health programmes or interventions
- Public health governance, audit and quality
- Public health law and ethics
- Public health policy and comparisons
- Capacity in public health systems and workforce

Papers describing original research impacting on public health practice are particularly encouraged. Those describing a particular event (e.g. an outbreak of infectious disease) should be submitted as soon as possible. Fast track publication of suitable articles is possible; please contact the Editorial Office regarding this.

Papers are invited from anywhere in the world, and so authors are asked to ensure that sufficient context is provided for all readers to appreciate their contribution.

The target market of the journal is researchers, practitioners, and policymakers who are engaged in public health practice, teaching, and research.

Types of manuscript considered
Public Health in Practice accepts the following types of submission:
Original Research (Regular Papers)
Review Articles
Case Reports
Short Communication
Commentaries
Letter to the Editor
Editorial

On submission, authors should indicate in which category their contribution is to be considered. If authors are uncertain of the category to which their paper is best suited, they should make this clear in their covering letter to the Editors.

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For any submission enquiries, please contact the Editorial Office:

Public Health Editorial Office
The Royal Society for Public Health
John Snow House
59 Mansell Street
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E1 8AN
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Submission process
Papers submitted to Public Health in Practice are carefully reviewed in the first instance by one of the Editors. Papers that do not meet editorial needs; are methodically flawed; or lack originality will be rejected. We will also reject papers that fail to provide sufficient ethical approval where required and we shall refer papers back for revision prior to any review if they do not comply with Journal style.

Papers which pass the Editorial review will be sent out to peer-review and will be reviewed by at least two external reviewers (short communications will only be sent to one reviewer). Reviewers are asked to consider whether the paper: contains new research findings or information; is relevant to public health practice, is technically sound; and is suitably presented.

PREPARATION
Peer review
This journal operates a double anonymized 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 two independent expert reviewers 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. Editors are not involved in decisions about papers which they have written themselves or have been written by family members or colleagues or which relate to products or services in which the editor has an interest. Any such submission is subject to all of the journal's usual procedures, with peer review handled independently of the relevant editor and their research groups. More information on types of peer review.

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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.

Article structure

| Word Length | Tables | Figures | References | Original Article | 3000 | 5 | 50 | Review article | 3000 | 5 | 100 | Short Communication | 1500 | 1 | 10 | Commentary | 1500 | 0 | 10 | Protocol | 3000 | 5 | 50 | Case Report | 1500 | 1 | 10 |

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Click here for an example
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Original research papers should be set out as follows:
Covering letter-the letter must contain: why the submission is appropriate for publication in Public Health in Practice; what is known about the topic discussed; what your study adds; and confirmation that the paper has not been published elsewhere. Title page- bearing title, all authors' initials, surname, main degrees (two only) and the name and location of the institution(s) where the work was done. The author to whom proofs and correspondence should be sent should be clearly indicated with correct address, e-mail, telephone and fax details. Abstract. This should be structured under the following headings:
- Objectives
- Study design
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions
Keywords. 3-6 keywords should follow the abstract
Introduction
Methods
Results
Discussion
Acknowledgements including declarations: Statements of ethical approval, funding and competing interests (see section above) References (see section below)

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A structured abstract will be required during the online submission process. Keywords will also be required. However, specific sections, such as Methods, should not be used in the manuscript itself.
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Systematic Review papers presenting exhaustive, critical assessments of the published literature on relevant public health topics or questions will be considered. Such reviews should be prepared in strict compliance with MOOSE or PRISMA guidelines or with Cochrane's complementary guidelines for systematic reviews of health promotion and public health interventions, as appropriate. We encourage authors to use alternative databases covering scientific literature from low- and middle-income countries not indexed in the traditional international databases (i.e. Medline, Web of Science). All systematic reviews need to be submitted with a supporting statement of which guideline has been used in the preparation of the review.

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Readers are encouraged to submit Letters to the Editors and these can include responses to previously published papers or original data. Authors will be given the opportunity to comment and respond to any correspondence we intend to include in the Letters to the Editors regarding their previously published manuscript.

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PUHIP welcomes the submission of commentaries and opinion pieces. Such articles are intended to comment on existing articles/books/reports or scientific theory. In general they highlight strengths and weakness and be backed by existing evidence. They may include a call to action. They SHOULD NOT include unpublished or original data. As a guide they should be short (up to 1500 words) with no figures or tables. This article type will not be externally peer reviewed - a decision will be taken by the
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*Reference style*

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