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### DESCRIPTION

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*Social Science & Medicine* provides an international and interdisciplinary forum for the dissemination of **social science** research on **health**. We publish original research articles (both empirical and theoretical), reviews, position papers and commentaries on health issues, to inform current research, policy and practice in all areas of common interest to social scientists, health practitioners, and policy makers. The journal publishes material relevant to any aspect of health from a wide range of social science disciplines (anthropology, economics, epidemiology, geography, policy, psychology, and sociology), and material relevant to the social sciences from any of the professions concerned with physical and mental health, health care, **clinical practice**, and **health policy** and organization. We encourage material which is of general interest to an international readership.

The journal publishes the following types of contribution:

- 1) Peer-reviewed original research articles and critical or analytical reviews in any area of social science research relevant to health. These papers may be up to 9,000 words including abstract, tables, and references as well as the main text. Papers below this limit are preferred.
- 2) Peer-reviewed short reports of research findings on topical issues or published articles of between 2000 and 4000 words.
- 3) Submitted or invited commentaries and responses debating, and published alongside, selected articles.
- 4) Special Issues bringing together collections of papers on a particular theme, and usually guest edited.

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Social scientists (e.g. medical anthropologists, health economists, social epidemiologists, medical geographers, health policy analysts, health psychologists, medical sociologists) interested in health, illness, and health care; and health-related policy makers and health care professionals (e.g. dentists, epidemiologists, health educators, lawyers, managers, nurses, midwives, pharmacists, physicians,

public health practitioners, psychiatrists, surgeons) interested in the contribution of the social sciences.

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### INTRODUCTION

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- 2) Systematic reviews and literature reviews of up to 15000 words including abstract, tables, figures, references and (printed) appendices as well as the main text.
- 3) Peer-reviewed short communications of findings on topical issues or published articles of between 2000 and 4000 words.
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Information about our peer-review policy can be found [here](#) .

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