



Announcement

CFP: Population Health Intervention Research

Preventive Medicine in collaboration with Guest Editors Mark Petticrew, PhD, Professor, Department of Social Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and Louise Potvin, PhD, Professor, Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, Université de Montréal, Scientific Director, Centre Léa-Roback sur les inégalités sociales de santé de Montréal, invite researchers to submit papers on population health intervention research for a themed section of the journal.

In their June *PM* editorial, Drs. Morabia and Costanza urged for the adoption of the term "Population Health Intervention Research," aka PHIR, and to embrace the "P" that stands for population (Morabia and Costanza, 2012).

A working definition of PHIR is "the use of scientific methods to produce knowledge about policy, program, and resource distribution approaches that operate within or outside of the health sector and have the potential to impact health at the population level" (Hawe and Potvin, 2009).

Several reviews have pointed to the relative paucity of population and public health intervention research and, in response, efforts have been underway to advance the field of PHIR in Canada, the US, and globally (Millward et al., 2001; Sanson-Fisher et al., 2008).

There is a need to advance knowledge about PHIR in the following areas:

- Theories and methods of population health intervention research and propositions needed to develop the field of PHIR
- Understanding what makes population health interventions complex or not
- Process and/or outcome evaluation(s) of population health interventions to measure what works, for whom, under what conditions, and at what cost
- Approaches to studying and/or empirical findings of natural experiments of a broad range of policy interventions including resource redistribution approaches

- Ethical foundations and implications of population health interventions
- Cross-jurisdictional comparative studies of population health interventions within and between countries

This themed section will feature conceptual and theoretical papers about the foundations of PHIR, systematic and realist reviews of literature on population health interventions and related processes/outcomes, and research articles describing the processes and/or results of population health intervention studies using a range of research designs and methods. We also encourage submissions involving multiple jurisdictions, sectors, disciplines, and communities in high, middle- and low-income countries.

The deadline for submissions is November 30, 2012.

The *Preventive Medicine* guidelines for authors can be found at http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/622934/authorinstructions.

Papers should be 2500 words or less, except if they describe population health intervention trials or literature reviews, in which case they can be up to 3500 words. Submitted papers deemed appropriate for the journal will be peer-reviewed.

This themed section is co-edited by *Preventive Medicine* and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research-Institute of Population and Public Health (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/13777.html>), through the Population Health Intervention Research Initiative for Canada (<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/38731.html>).

References

- Morabia, A., Costanza, M., 2012. Population Health Intervention Research (PHIR): Should we fear the "P"? *Prev Med.* 54, 291–2.
- Hawe, P., Potvin, L., 2009. What is population health intervention research? *Can J Public Health*, 100:Suppl 18–14.
- Millward, L., Kelly, M., Nutbeam, D., 2003. Public Health Intervention Research: The Evidence. Health Development Agency, 34 pages. ISBN 1-84279-225-3. Available online: http://image.guardian.co.uk/sys-files/Society/documents/2003/08/12/pubhealth_intervention.pdf.
- Sanson-Fisher, R.W., Campbell, E.M., Htun, A.T., Bailey, L.J., Millar, C.J., 2008. We are what we do: research outputs of public health. *Am J Prev Med.* 35, 380–85.