

AIMS & SCOPE

Public Health Nursing aims to provide worldwide access to timely research and practice features of use to public health nurses, administrators, and educators in the field of public health nursing.

Its scope is the range of population-based concerns and interventions in which nurses are involved. The journal emphasizes scholarship on vulnerable populations. Articles include research studies, program evaluations, practice concepts, and educational features published with the goal of replication and development, and theory, education, methods, policy, and ethical and legal papers that stimulate discussion and public debate. Authors from all disciplines are invited to submit manuscripts relevant to public health nursing. Authors who have questions about the appropriateness of a manuscript for publication in this journal are encouraged to communicate with the Editor prior to submission.

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When authorship of a single manuscript exceeds six authors, the editor may require additional information about the contributions of each. The editor discourages submission of papers written for class assignments by individual or groups of students.

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Manuscript Types. Authors should specify a Manuscript Type for each submission, depending on its content. Manuscripts must be shorter than 5000 words (text & references), with no more than 5 tables or figures. Letters to the Editor must be shorter than 1000 words and include no graphics.

1. Populations at Risk Across the Lifespan manuscripts describe the distribution, risk, or outcomes of health determinants in a specific population. The discussion must focus on implications for practice or theory in public health nursing.

- **Population studies** are based on representative samples of at-risk persons and provide either estimates of prevalence or risk or information about the experience of being at-risk or the impact of beliefs, values, or interventions on health behavior.
- **Program evaluations** use research methods to test the process or outcomes of primary, secondary, or tertiary public health prevention programs that target specific at-risk populations. Evaluations should include assessment of intervention adequacy, progress, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and/or sustainability.
- **Case reports** include research studies of convenience or other non-representative samples, pilot projects, and analyses of the characteristics of at-risk groups.

2. Special Features manuscripts are as follows.

- **Clinical Concepts** describe the organization, delivery, or financing of public health nursing services, including exemplary practices in population-focused health care.

- **Health Policy** papers analyze the social, economic, political, and environmental factors that influence public policy related to health care, including public health nursing and nursing education.
- **Law and Ethics** papers address moral issues, principles, and standards of conduct as they relate to providing or receiving care, professionalism, and standards of practice, including court decisions affecting public health.
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4. Letters to the Editor address timely issues or reflect on the content of the journal.

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- Flush-left the manuscript file. Do not use justified alignment.
- Use a 0.5" indent for all paragraphs.

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The manuscript title and running head (short title) should also be included in your main text file.

Abstract. For Research Studies, a structured abstract of no more than 200 words must be provided. Headings to include: Objective(s), Design, Sample, Measurements, Intervention (if any), Results, and Conclusions.

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Key words. When selecting keywords, use MeSH or CINAHL subject headings (evidence shows that abstracts that use these result in more "hits" than abstracts that do not). Incorporate keywords into the abstract to increase the likelihood of other authors identifying your paper for citation.

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Research studies must include the following headings:

- Background (key publications and their significance for the topic) and Research Questions or Hypotheses.
- Methods headings: Design and Sample, Measures, and Analytic Strategy.
- Results: headings at the discretion of the authors to summarize of findings from the analytic strategy.
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- Non-research manuscripts vary in structure according to topic.

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Submit one set of original illustrations in electronic form only. Do not embed prints or images in word processing files. Color photographs must be saved in CMYK as TIF or JPG files at 300dpi at 5inches (12.5cm) in width. Black and white photographs must be saved in greyscale as TIF files at 300dpi at 5 inches (12.5cm) in width. Line drawings can be prepared in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, or Adobe Illustrator but without embedded images from other sources.

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Examples of references in APA style

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May, K. M., Phillips, L. R., Ferketich, S. L., & Verran, J. A. (2003). Public health nursing: The generalist in a specialized environment. *Public Health Nursing, 20*(4), 252-259.

Chapter in edited book, multiple editors:

Styles, M. M. & Lewis, C. K. (2000). Conceptualizations of advanced nursing practice. In A. B. Hamric, J. A. Spross, & C. M. Hanson, (Eds.), *Advanced nursing practice: An integrative approach* (pp. 33-51). Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders.

Online document:

World Health Organization (2003). Stories of tragedy and hope: Access to treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS. Retrieved September 24, 2003 from <http://www.who.int/features/2003/09/en/>

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