The Journal of Primary Prevention
Note to Authors from the Editor

The Journal of Primary Prevention seeks manuscripts that address the prevention of high risk behaviors, the reduction of associated problems and harms, and the promotion and maintenance of healthy functioning and psychosocial wellness. We publish a wide spectrum of studies that include the epidemiology and determinants of high risk behavior and environments, as well as the development, evaluation, translation, sustainability, and costs and benefits of preventive interventions.

We hope you will consider submitting your manuscript to our journal. Because our goal is to publish articles that represent primary prevention activities across the globe, we particularly welcome international submissions.

We recently polled the members of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Primary Prevention to ask them to specify topics that are of particular interest to the journal. Our intention in sharing the results with you is to be descriptive, not prescriptive. This list (in no particular order of importance) will also give you a good sense the diversity of our interests.

- Child abuse, including the prevention of:
  - Entry into foster care and residential treatment facilities
  - Adverse outcomes for youth aging out of foster care or residential facilities
- Promoting healthy aging and preventing physical, cognitive, and social challenges
- Promoting psychosocial bonding and positive interactions and health-rearing behaviors between mothers and young children, and maternal/child health
- Evaluations of multi-level community interventions targeting individuals, peers, families, communities, and/or policy
- Promoting resilience or “positive deviancy”
- Models and metrics for evaluating the intermediate and long-term effects of community-based participatory research
- Studies of the dissemination and implementation of evidence-based programs to community practice worldwide in a “science to practice” context
- Preventing health disparities by effective service to populations defined by race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and culture
- Environmental prevention strategies
- Mental health
- Promoting system change to serve families with young children
- Studies of effective programs targeting LGBTQ populations
- Effects of public policies promoting positive health-related behaviors
- Youth development approaches to primary prevention including:
  - Mentoring
Youth civic involvement
Volunteering and community service
Political activism

- The use of novel technologies in health promotion and risk behavior prevention
- The effectiveness of mindfulness and meditation-based interventions
- The effectiveness of interventions to prevent domestic and interpersonal violence, with a particular emphasis on the use of firearms
- Prevention strategies targeting overlapping or synergistic epidemics, or “syndemics” (e.g., substance use, violence, and HIV)

We will do our best to make an initial determination of your manuscript’s suitability for the journal within two weeks of its receipt. We will then let you know promptly if we believe it is not appropriate. To expedite the review process, we ask you to include at least three keywords that describe the content area of your manuscript, and strongly recommend that you provide at least three reviewers (and their email addresses) whom you believe will provide a competent and fair review. Authors of manuscripts sent out for review can expect to receive a response within three to four months; if you do not hear from us within that time, please feel free to contact us.

Typical delays, over which we have limited control, are caused by difficulties securing completed reviews within a specified period of four weeks. Our final selection of articles for publication is based on their contribution to the field of prevention, the clarity of their presentation, the strength of their research methodology, and the significance and accessibility of their findings for scientific, policy, and general audiences. You can easily keep track of the review process as it pertains to your manuscript through the journal’s manuscript management system, which may be found here: [http://www.editorialmanager.com/jopp/](http://www.editorialmanager.com/jopp/).

Abstracts are limited to 300 words. Please pay close attention to the format and content of your abstract, since we typically make initial screening decisions on the basis of the abstract alone, and prospective reviewers also examine your abstract to help them decide whether they are willing to review your manuscript. We urge you to submit abstracts that include the following order of information (without subheadings): a brief statement of the problem, the research question(s) addressed, methods, key results, and a compelling concluding statement as to how the results will move the field of primary prevention forward.

Please note that we expect manuscripts to be well-written and grammatically correct, to use the active voice (e.g., “we investigated”), and to be properly formatted in APA style. We strongly encourage authors for whom English is not a first language to subject their manuscripts to a thorough and detailed edit by a native English speaker who is also a seasoned technical writer. We believe that Dr. Scott Okamoto of Hawaii Pacific University, who is a member of our Editorial Board, has eloquently captured the spirit of the journal:

"I feel that a major strength of JoPP is that the journal successfully balances innovation in
prevention science with scientific rigor. This is in contrast to other prevention journals, which are more 'traditional' in their approach to prevention science and tend to focus more exclusively on scientific rigor. I hope that the journal can maintain its focus on innovation, because this sets JoPP apart from other journals and helps to build the field of prevention science."

Should you have questions about the suitability of a manuscript for the journal, please don’t hesitate to contact us. We look forward to receiving your manuscripts and welcome your feedback at any time.

Chris Ringwalt, DrPH
Editor
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As specified in the table below, specific types of papers published in the journal include original research, brief reports, and literature reviews.

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<th>Manuscript Type</th>
<th>Summary</th>
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<tr>
<td>Original Research</td>
<td>Generates significant new knowledge for the prevention field using strong quantitative and/or qualitative methods. Discussion focuses on how conclusions contribute to the literature and on implications for research and practice.</td>
<td>Maximum of 4000 words, 5 tables and/or figures, and 40 references</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brief Report</td>
<td>Suitable for pilot studies that present promising results. Also suitable for literature reviews of emerging but potentially important content areas.</td>
<td>Maximum 1500 words, 2 tables and/or figures, and 15 references</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review of the Literature</td>
<td>Rigorous and systematic reviews or meta-analyses of content areas with a considerable research or practice literature.</td>
<td>Maximum 4500 words, 5 tables and/or figures, and unlimited references</td>
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