

Violence as a Public Health Issue: Special issue

Call for Papers

Guest Editors:

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Public Health is an international, multidisciplinary peer-reviewed journal. It publishes original research papers, reviews (up to 3000 words in length) and short reports (up to 1500 words) on all aspects of the science, philosophy and practice of public health. It is aimed at all public health practitioners and researchers, and those who manage and deliver public health services and systems. It is also of interest to anyone involved in the provision of public health programmes, the care of populations or communities and those who contribute to public health systems in any way.

Violence in its many forms impacts individuals, communities and nations around the world. While there has been a great deal of focus on instruments of violence, such as firearms in the United States and explosives used in terrorist attacks, the focus on the systemic factors that contribute to the risk and occurrence of violence, as well as the underlying core of violence, has been lagging.

This special issue would welcome submissions that focus on documenting the systemic components of interpersonal violence (from local to global), assessing the nature and extent, and risk and protective factors that contribute to the development of patterns of violence, and/or exploring system changes and their consequences in response to interpersonal violence. Submissions might consider any form (and/or multiple forms) of interpersonal violence (child maltreatment, adverse childhood experiences, youth violence, sexual violence, intimate partner violence, gender-, culture-, politics- and religion-based violence, or abuse of older people) and may focus on specific populations, communities or settings (e.g. workplace).

The special issue will consider empirical studies that provide new data or insights into the public health dimensions of violence and in-depth case studies (qualitative or quantitative in design) on interventions or initiatives to build or sustain the prevention of interpersonal violence at any system level and in any population, especially marginalised or vulnerable populations. We would also welcome articles evaluating the effect (and cost effectiveness) of measures by public health systems to prevent interpersonal violence. Evidence-informed conceptual pieces presenting new thinking about the implications for and practice of public health may also be considered. Interdisciplinary submissions would be especially welcome.

Further information about submission requirements can be found at:

<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/public-health>. Authors should select the 'VSI: Violence as a PH issue' article type when uploading their article.

For any additional information, please contact the Editorial Office:

publichealth@rsph.org.uk. The deadline for submission to the special issue is 31 December 2025.