

Special Issue

Equity, Access and Use of Health Care Services

Message from the Guest Editors

Equity is a major goal for healthcare systems. Although significant efforts to reduce inequalities have been made by public authorities in many countries, barriers to accessing healthcare persist. Moreover, the Great Recession of 2008 forced many governments to implement significant public spending cuts and other reforms with likely negative impact on access to healthcare services. The current COVID-19 pandemic has posed additional challenges to healthcare systems and economies with adverse consequences on access to and use of healthcare services, particularly for vulnerable population groups: undocumented migrants, economically disadvantaged, ethnic minorities, people with mental health problems, etc. Equity in access and effective use of healthcare services is a multi-dimensional issue that may be analyzed from different perspectives—socio-economic, gender or geographic, among others—and with different methodologies. Papers addressing equity in healthcare from any relevant perspective are invited for this Special issue. We especially welcome contributions providing policy recommendations to improve equity goals.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 July 2022)



International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

CiteScore 8.5
Indexed in PubMed



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*International Journal of
Environmental Research and
Public Health*
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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

IJERPH provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality peer-reviewed journal.

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