Special Issue

Health Literacy and Social Contexts

Message from the Guest Editors

Health literacy, defined as individuals' ability to find, understand, critique, and use health-related information, has the potential to empower people to make positive health choices. Historically and clinically, health literacy has primarily been understood as an individual construct. However, recent research highlights the role of social contexts in acquiring knowledge and making health-related decisions. The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the value in this research, illustrating that understanding, evaluating, and using health information is dynamic and socially determined, rather than fixed and individual. To develop successful health literacy interventions on both individual and collective levels, a more nuanced, theory- and research-based understanding of how social contexts shape health literacy is needed. To promote further exploration of this topic, we are seeking manuscripts that examine the intersection of social contexts and health literacy.

Guest Editors

Dr. Dirk Bruland

Dr. Joy Agner

Prof. Dr. Anne-Dörte Latteck

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 October 2022)



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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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Paul B. Tchounwou

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