

Special Issue

Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses in Public Health

Message from the Guest Editors

Systematic reviews provide summaries of evidence contained in a number of individual studies on a specific topic. Evidence synthesis is the general term used to describe a systematic review. Meta-analysis is a statistical technique for combining the results of a number of individual studies to produce a summary result. A systematic review may or may not deploy a meta-analysis. The logic of systematically reviewing literature is applied today in a wide variety of ways leading to a plethora of published reviews on a topic. Among other evidence synthesis types, there are meta-syntheses, scoping reviews, rapid reviews, living systematic reviews, umbrella reviews, guidelines, etc. Current healthcare practice and policy increasingly rely on clear and comprehensive summaries of information collated through systematic literature reviews. It is necessary for public health professionals to use reviews for underpinning their practice guidelines.

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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

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