

Journal: *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*

Special Issue: *“Health Literacy and Equity—Interdisciplinary Perspectives and Recent Trends in Health Literacy Research and Action Around the World”*

Special Issue Editors: Orkan Okan, Tetine Sentell, and Sandra Vamos

Deadline: 30 December 2019

## Special Issue Information

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to inform you that the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (IJERPH)* has invited us to edit a Special Issue on “Health Literacy and Equity—Interdisciplinary Perspectives and Recent Trends in Health Literacy Research and Action Around the World.” Health literacy is a Sustainable Development Goal and a 21st century action-oriented approach to public health, health promotion, education, and health care. Health literacy describes essential skills and situational resources needed for people to find, understand, evaluate, communicate, and use information and services in a variety of forms across various settings throughout the life-course. In this sense, enhancing health literacy in populations and systems is critical to achieving health equity. Thus, health literacy is increasingly recognized as a cross-cutting global issue and health determinant and is the focus of a growing body of interdisciplinary and international research, practice, and policy.

From the WHO’s Ottawa Charter and Shanghai Declaration to the IUHPE’s health literacy position paper, health literacy is linked to empowerment and drives health equity. Therefore, this Special Issue aims to capture the current progress and future action towards health literacy in the context of equity. We welcome papers that showcase the latest policy developments, innovative practice examples, cutting-edge research, and sustainable capacity-building activities. Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods research are welcome, as are case-studies, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses. We are particularly interested in the following:

- Research considering cross-country comparisons and/or cross-sector collaborations;
- Research promoting or evaluating a systems approach to health literacy;
- Research that captures the contemporary discussion on theory, models, definitions, and concept analyses for different populations and age groups, including insights from other scientific disciplines;
- Research and practice initiatives on the social function of health literacy, social contexts, social health literacy, and distributed health literacy;
- Research and practice results that move global, national, or regional policies to action, or the evaluation of those policies in terms of health promotion and the social determinants of health;
- Research considering capacity-building and empowerment for health literacy across professions, settings, and systems (such as education, health care, workplace, business, and government).

Prospective authors should submit a 350 word abstract by 30 April 2019 for consideration and feedback by the Guest Editors. Abstracts should be sent to the Editorial Office in advance ([bonnie.wang@mdpi.com](mailto:bonnie.wang@mdpi.com)) under the subject heading “*IJERPH* Health Literacy Special Issue.”

Authors whose abstracts are accepted will be invited to submit a full manuscript by 30 December 2019. Subject to the decision of the Special Issue editors, up to five manuscripts accepted through this process will receive a waiver of the normal journal publication fee. In addition, authors may submit their paper through the normal journal submission process, and the usual journal processing fee of 1800 CHF will apply. All manuscripts will be subject to the journal's normal peer review process.

Mr. Orkan Okan

Assoc. Prof. Tetine Sentell

Assoc. Prof. Sandra Vamos

*Guest Editors*

#### **Guest Editors**

Orkan Okan

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Research Interests: health literacy, health promotion, education, equity, policy research, children/youth

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Research Interests: health literacy, health education, international health education, applied public health practice, children/youth health, health behaviour, health literacy policy

#### **Manuscript Submission Information**

Manuscripts should be submitted online at [www.mdpi.com](http://www.mdpi.com) by [registering](#) and [logging in to this website](#). Once you are registered, [click here to go to the submission form](#). Manuscripts can be submitted until the deadline. All papers will be peer-reviewed. Accepted papers will be published continuously in the journal (as soon as accepted) and will be listed together on the special issue website. Research articles, review articles as well as short communications are invited. For planned papers, a title and short abstract (about 100 words) can be sent to the Editorial Office for announcement on this website.

Submitted manuscripts should not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere (except conference proceedings papers). All manuscripts are thoroughly refereed through a single-blind peer-review process. A guide for authors and other relevant information for submission of manuscripts is available on the

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### ***Keywords***

- health literacy
- health equity
- social environments and networks
- intersectoral approaches
- social determinants of health
- health policy
- capacity building

### ***Published Papers***

This special issue is now open for submission.