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Instructions for Authors

Copyright:

Editorial Committee

Health Prospect: Journal of Public Health

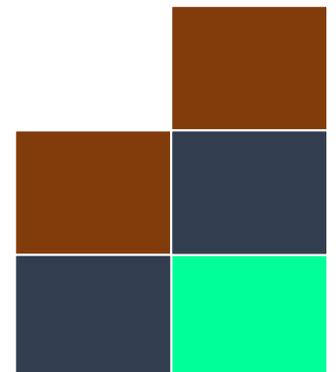
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General Information

Introduction

Health Prospect: Journal of Public Health is a unique effort of public health students of Institute of Medicine, Kathmandu. This peer-reviewed journal has 3 Issues published annually under 1 Volume. Health Prospect, the only Public Health journal of Nepal, has the mission of providing firm scientific base for public health researches, policy analysis and a forum for dissemination of public health issues. With history of more than a decade, Nepal Public Health Students' Society has been providing significant contribution for the publication of the journal (for detailed history about Health Prospect, see ***Mishra SR, Katuwal S, Mahato NK, Triumphs and Despair- Journey of Health Prospect from Newsletter to Peer Reviewed Journal, Health Prospect, Vol. 11:26***).

Accepted manuscripts after peer review and necessary proofing will be published online in the nearest possible Issue. Three Issues will be compiled and a print annual Volume of Health Prospect will be published.

Submission and Inquiry

Authors are strongly advised for submission of the manuscripts in the format indicated in Instructions for Authors. Latest edition of 'Instructions for Authors' is available online at <http://www.nphss.org>.

For submission of the manuscript, authors can e-mail to the Executive Editor at hpec@iom.edu.np.

All the manuscripts submitted to Health Prospect are supposed not to have been published elsewhere, simultaneously submitted or under-consideration of publication elsewhere. Detected attempt of dual-publication will automatically get a manuscript rejected and the author blacklisted for future submission.

In case of failure of a manuscript for compliance with these specifications, the authors will be requested to re-submit the manuscript in the specified format. So, the authors are requested to check this document as a checklist before submission of manuscripts.

For inquiry about the current progress of a submitted manuscript, the authors can e-mail to hp.inquiry@iom.edu.np.

Scope of Health Prospect

Health Prospect publishes articles related to researches done in the field of public health, health care management, including ethical and social issues pertaining to health. The journal gives preference to socio-demographic studies relating to public health over clinical, experimental and animal studies. The Journal publishes peer-reviewed [Original Research Articles](#), [Guest Editorial](#), [Editorial](#), [Viewpoint](#), [Review Articles](#) and [Letter to the Editor](#) solicited by the Editorial Committee.

Health Prospect adheres to the guidelines of [Committee on Publication Ethics](#).

Types of Accepted Manuscripts

Health Prospect gives preference to definitive papers on Public Health and related disciplines. Health Prospect does not publish preliminary reports of work in progress or brief reports of single cases. Publications of Health Prospect include:

Original Research Articles

Original research articles related to public health discipline are published in Health Prospect. The article should strictly be on the format of: Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Methods (description of participants, technical details, ethics and statistical methods), Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgement and References. Abstract should be structured and not more than 250 words. Keywords should not be more than 5. Total length of the original research article should not be more than 6000 words. Peer Reviewer will support the Editorial Committee in making the decision of the quality of research articles.

Guest Editorial

Guest Editorial on topic of current relevance will be published upon request by Editorial Board to a guest. The guest will be a renowned public health figure with distinct experience on the field of public health. This column will not be peer-reviewed. Guest Editorial will be limited to 1500 words and with 15 references at most.

Editorial

Editorial Committee will decide a member of the committee to write for this column. The topic of Editorial will be selected based upon ongoing public health issues of general concern. Proper referencing of this section will be done. Editorial will be limited to 2000 words excluding references.

Viewpoint

Viewpoints from students and public health professionals will be published on Health Prospect. Word limit for viewpoint is 2000 with an unstructured Abstract (250 words limit). At most, 5 keywords can be mentioned. The writer is expected to be analytical on the issue submitted for the Editorial Committee. At most, 15 references can be mentioned. Editorial Committee in consultation with Peer Reviewers will make decision about the submitted viewpoints.

Review Articles

This section has systematic critical assessments of literature and data sources. Words must be limited to 2000 words with Abstract (unstructured, 250 words). Editorial Committee in consultation with Peer Reviewers will make decision about the publication of submitted Review Articles.

Letter to the Editor

Letter to the editor regarding the contents published on the journal are welcome. Letter to the Editor are published for increasing debate over the published contents. It should be limited to 600 words and 8 references. Editorial Committee alone makes refinements in the Letter to the Editor before making decision about the publication.

Preparation of Manuscripts

During the preparation of manuscripts, authors are requested to consider these points:

- The manuscripts submitted must be typed in Microsoft® Word in **Times New Roman font, 12 points**. Title of paragraphs can be designed in **Arial font, 16 points**.

- The manuscript must have clear and concise English language (either American or British English) throughout the text.
- First page of the manuscript should contain **ONLY** the title and full name of the authors, their corresponding address, e-mail details and the type of manuscript. The identity of the authors **SHOULD NOT** be disclosed elsewhere in the manuscript as the manuscripts under peer-review are double-blinded.
- Use of SI unit as unit of measurement is prescribed.
- Use only the standard abbreviations. Spelled out abbreviation followed by abbreviation in parenthesis should be used during first mention.
- The text (along with References) should be single-spaced.
- The **TEXT SHOULD NOT CONTAIN** any graphs, tables or figures. They should be forwarded separately with filename as indicated in the text within the parenthesis. The images should be in .png or .tiff format with highest possible resolution (>300 dots per inch).
- For uniformity, the authors are strictly advised to follow referencing in **Vancouver style (Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals)**. In the text followed by a full stop, references should be numbered consecutively in parenthesis. Reference to unpublished communications is unacceptable. Personal communications should be cited in the text in parentheses.

Example:

Bushby KMD, Gardner-Medwin D. The clinical, genetic and dystrophin characteristics of Becker muscular dystrophy. I. Natural history. J Neurol 1993; 240: 98-104.

Editorial Review

After the submission of a manuscript, Editorial Committee will have thorough observation of the manuscript. It will be checked for compliance to the Instructions for Authors, public health significance of the issue and format of the manuscript. In case of affirmative conclusion, the author will be replied with 'Letter of Receipt' along with the reference ID for their manuscript. In case of non-compliance, manuscript will either be rejected or asked to be modified by the authors, depending upon the type of incompatibility.

Then, the manuscript will be checked for plagiarism. Health Prospect uses **Viper- THE ANTIPLAGIARISM SCANNER** for plagiarism checking. So, authors are advised to refrain from plagiarising other's work.

Peer Review

Accepted articles are sent for peer review. Generally, an article is reviewed by two peer reviewers. The content of the article and its standard to be published in Health Prospect is checked. The peer reviewer then sends back the report of his/her review. Based upon the reports, the Editor forwards the author about the modifications needed to be made in the manuscript (if any). The author has to make required modifications within a week of receiving comments.

In second round of Peer Review, the modified manuscript is again forwarded to the original Peer Reviewers to check whether the required changes have been made. In case of any further modification needed, the author will be asked to make final changes.

If the revised manuscript is still unacceptable for the publication, it will be rejected. If it is now acceptable for publication, it will be checked for grammatical flaws and punctuation by the Editorial Committee.

Then, the manuscript gets published in the nearest possible Issue of Health Prospect by the Publication Committee.

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