

Call for papers

FOOD AS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE**Editors:****Herman van Oyen, MD, DrPH, MPH, DTM&H**

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Diet is the number one health risk factor. The Global Burden of Disease study identified diet-related diseases as a major cause of disability and mortality worldwide. How can our food supply and environment provide us with the variety of high-quality food, healthy food we need to secure our right to health?

IJPH invites authors to submit proposals for original articles and systematic reviews that study the effects of system-driven forces on the availability and accessibility of healthy food, and explore the effect of these relationships on diseases associated to diet. Proposals consider the following questions:

- Obesity is still on the rise. What are the direct and indirect health-related costs of poor-quality diet on obesity? What systemic interventions may influence this trend?
- Poverty is a risk factor for poor-quality diets, obesity, and linked non-communicable diseases (NCD). Are there localized strategies (e.g., family, school, workplace, retail outlets, communities) or general strategies that could make healthy foods more available, accessible and affordable to all?
- What beliefs, values, attitudes and social practices are associated with the type of foods we eat, the status of certain foods, the way foods are used in social settings? How does commercial marketing influence our values and attitudes? Who is most vulnerable and exposed, and what effect does marketing have on obesity and non-communicable diseases (NCD)?
- Availability and access to (ultra-)processed food is increasing. Which determinants may reconnect food cooking and people in a healthy food environment?
- How do policies (like regulations, agreements, taxes, subsidies) reduce or improve the quality and quantity of available food? Which policies might stem the obesity epidemic?
- Which interventions for reducing the impact of the obesogenic environment can governments feasibly implement, and which are most likely to reduce NCD risks in the general population?

Two-step submission

1. **Submit an Abstract by 11 December 2020**

to the IJPH editorial office, email to ijph@swisstph.ch with subject line IJPH_Call_Food

The abstract (300 words max) should contain

- The working title of the article;
- Key authors and institutions;
- The article type (Original article, or systematic Review)
- A brief description of Background, Methods, main Results, and Implications (please use these headers to structure the Abstract). If you have not yet finished your analysis, you may discuss the potential significance of your work instead of presenting your main results.
- A sentence at the end that explains your article's connection to the call theme.

Before submitting the Abstract, please make yourself familiar with the IJPH rules for Original Articles and systematic Reviews.

We will inform you by **16 December 2020** whether or not you are invited to submit a full article.

2. **Submit the full article by 26 March 2021** (invited authors only)

Manuscripts must fully comply with IJPH rules for the article type, length and format, and must contain an ethical and conflict of interest statement (please consult the IJPH instructions for authors).

Please be aware that an invitation to submit the full article is no guarantee that the article will be accepted.

All IJPH author's guidelines and double-blind peer-review rules apply.

The special issue will be published open access. Article Processing Charges apply. For more information visit the IJPH website [here](#).

Contact for questions: Anke Berger, Managing Editor IJPH (anke.berger@swisstph.ch)

We look forward to your submission!