

Call for papers

VACCINATION IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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IJPH invites for peer review high quality articles on vaccination in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, regarding both existing programs and new COVID-19 vaccines.

In 2019, the World Health Organization listed vaccine hesitancy as one among ten threats to global health. In the COVID-19 pandemic, anti-vaccine sentiment and concerns related to newly developed COVID-19 vaccines have quickly escalated by traditional and social media, and unverified and incomplete information, rumors and memes about COVID-19 vaccines are reaching many people faster than complex scientific information. While new vaccines may be raising hopes of returning to pre-COVID-19 normality, they also raise questions about unknown effects, and speculation about potential compulsory vaccination.

At the same time, the pandemic itself has posed new challenges to existing vaccination programs. Various factors related to the pandemic have caused suspensions of vaccination programs or delays in routine medical care, leading to a drop in vaccination rates and new outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases.

As new vaccines against COVID-19 become available, limited supplies and logistical challenges about vaccine production, storage, and distribution pose questions about the ethics of distribution both within and between countries. Between countries, questions about how to ensure that vaccines are both available and affordable for middle and low-income countries are paramount. Within countries, authorities must deal with thorny ethical questions about which groups should have priority access to vaccination and how to ration limited vaccine supplies.

We welcome Original Articles, Systematic Reviews and other Review formats based on comprehensive systematic literature search. Potential contributions to the special issue include but are not limited to

- Vaccine hesitancy during the COVID-19 pandemic, both towards routine vaccination and COVID-19 vaccines
- Public perception of COVID-19 vaccination policies
- The ethics of access to COVID-19 vaccines
- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on other vaccination programs

Two-step submission process and deadlines – please see next page

STEP 1

Submit an Abstract by 20 January 2021

to the IJPH Editorial Office, email to ijph@swisstph.ch with subject line IJPH_Vaccination.

Please do not submit full articles at this stage.

The abstract (300 words max) should contain:

- The working title of the article;
- Key authors and institutions;
- The article type (Original Article, Systematic Review or other Review format)
- A description of Background, Methods, main Results, and Conclusion (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 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 Reviews.

We will inform you by **27 January 2021** whether or not you are invited to submit a full article.

STEP 2

Upon invitation, submit the full article by 30 April 2021

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

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

Contact: Anke Berger, Managing Editor IJPH: anke.berger@swisstph.ch.

We look forward to your submission!