

International Journal of Public Health

Young Researcher Editorial (YRE) Series – Author Guidelines

AIMS and SCOPE

The YRE series publishes editorials on timely public and global health issues, written by PhD students and early career researchers (up to 12 months after completing PhD). YRE are reviewed and edited by PhD students who are affiliated with the Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+). YRE is a capacity building project of IJPH and the SSPH+ to train early career researchers in writing, reviewing and editing Editorials. YREs are submitted through the [IJPH website](#).

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YRE fulfil one or more of the following statements:

- Raise new issues in public health
- Discuss recent themes in public health
- Debate public health science and related policies
- Promote discussions about science careers in public health and related challenges
- Situate public health challenges in broader contexts
- Address matters of global or multi-regional relevance
- Discuss methodological or theoretical approaches relevant for public health

In addition, YRE

- Convey a single clear message, with which the YRE is concluded
- Be written concisely and clearly (easy to understand)
- To support the argument, YRE present existing evidence, they do not present new evidence; YRE shape opinion
- Include a balanced mix of evidence and opinion
- Focus on a specific interesting aspect of a problem but do not cover the problem from every possible angle. YRE are not a textbook-style compilation of information, neither a summary of a thesis. Please be aware that such YRE are rejected
- Inform, discuss and can be provocative.
- YRE raise new questions, express the authors' opinions and thus publish the perspectives of early career researchers.

STRUCTURE AND FORMAT

Please follow also the general IJPH [author guidelines](#) for editorials. In addition the following rules apply to YRE:

Title and main message

- The title of a YRE should be short and catchy

- Below the title, summarize the message of the YRE (100 characters, without spaces). This message statement is only for editorial purposes. It will not be published

Text body

- The first part (one paragraph) provides the essential required background to introduce the topic. It should start with an interesting first sentence/question to make readers curious
- The middle part (can include multiple paragraphs) makes an argument based on evidence and your own opinion. Each paragraph starts with a topic sentence that summarizes the paragraph's main idea, followed by detail sentences to support that idea. Paragraphs should be closed with a transition sentence that leads the reader to the main idea of the next paragraph.
- The final part (one paragraph) should conclude your argument (what is the message of your YRE), remind the readers why the issue is important and suggest future action
- YRE are limited to maximum of 800 words and up to 10 references

PEER REVIEW

- YRE are checked for plagiarism
- YRE are pre-screened by the YRE team if suitable for the series.
- If a YRE passes the pre-screen phase, it will be peer reviewed by two members of the YRE team. Peer-review usually includes 2 rounds of review and revisions followed by professional content editing.
- Revised versions must be submitted in Word format in tracked-changes mode and line numbers added. We also expect, as a separate document, a point-to-point response to all reviewer comments, with corresponding changes indicated in the manuscript.
- After successful peer review and accept decision of the YRE editors, a professional scientific content editor will review the text. This step constitutes an important training step and we encourage authors to take the comments very seriously. Content editing will lead to another round of revisions. The YRE Editor-in-Chief or a team member will finally check to see if the content editor's suggestions were well-taken. Content editing is free to YRE authors and is funded by IJPH.
- Please always be aware that YRE is a training exercise for authors and editors. Be ready to accept critical feedback. Remember that writing an YRE differs from writing a PhD thesis. It might be helpful to read previously published editorials.
- You can find previously published YRE [here](#) (until 2020) and [here](#) (as of 2021).

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