

Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences

Scope

Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences (EPS) is an international, peer reviewed journal intended to provide updated data and scientific information to epidemiologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, statisticians and other research and mental health workers primarily concerned with public health and epidemiological and social psychiatry.

Priority is given to original research and systematic reviews about mental health service research, aimed to improve the quality of everyday practice. From 2015, EPS is published bimonthly (in February, April, June, August, October and December).

Editorial Policy

Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences publishes the following articles:

Original articles: These should be no more than 4000 words (excluding abstract, references, tables/figures, which should be uploaded as separate files). The abstract should be structured using the subheadings Aims, Methods, Results, Conclusions, and should not exceed 400 words. The article should contain no more than a combined total of six tables and/or figures. Authors must also select four keywords to be included. All submissions are via the online submission system detailed below.

Editorials: These should be no more than 3000 words, plus a non-structured abstract of 300 words, references, tables and figures. Four keywords are required for Editorials. Usually two Editorials on the same topic are published in each issue. The Editorials are preceded by **Editorials in this Issue**, a presentation written by one of the Associate Editors and the Editor-in-Chief, of no more than 1500 words, plus references, with four key words. No abstract is required. Authors will be invited via the online submission system to submit Editorials, and these should not be submitted speculatively.

Special Articles: These should be no more than 4000 words, plus a structured abstract of 400 words using the subheadings Aims, Methods, Results, Conclusions, plus references, tables and figures. The article should include no more than a combined total of six tables and/or figures. Authors must also select four keywords to be included. Both invited Editorials and Special Articles are intended to keep up with the changing world of epidemiological psychiatry and to consider new perspectives. Authors will be invited via the online submission system to submit Special Articles, and these should not be submitted speculatively.

Commentaries: These should be no more than 1500 words, plus references, and without an abstract. Usually two Commentaries, written by invitation by two leading scientists in the field, follow the Special Article.

Letters: This is **not** a section for correspondence. Papers originally submitted as Original Articles may be revised by the Editor and external Assessors and accepted as letters (no more than 2500 words, plus up to 20 references; no more than a combined total of three tables. Authors must also select four keywords to be included, and an abstract is not required). Authors may also choose to prepare an article under this format and submit it as a Letter via the online submission system detailed below.

The Editor will also consider **Methodological Contributions, Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses** (no more than 4000 words, excluding structured abstract of 400 words, references, tables and figures. There should be no more than a combined total of seven tables and/or figures. Authors must also select four keywords to be included).

The following Sections may also appear in the journal:

Contemporary Outsider Art (edited by Carole Tansella). This Section of *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* usually appears in each issue of the Journal and is dedicated to all forms of creative production born of an intimate and individual urge, often secretive, unbound from the conventional art system rules. Through short descriptions of the Outsider art work of prominent artists and new protagonists often hosted in community mental health services, this section intends to investigate the latest developments of the contemporary art scene, where the distances between the edge and the center are becoming more and more vague. These contributions are written in house by the Section Editor or commissioned by the Section Editor. Authors will be invited via the online submission system to submit to this section, and these papers should not be submitted speculatively. (These should be no more than 800 words, plus references. Authors must also select four keywords, and may include up to ten references and two high-resolution images. No abstract is required).

Epidemiology for Clinical Psychopharmacology (edited by Corrado Barbui). This Section of *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* appears every second issue of the year, and focusses on the role of the epidemiological approach to promoting advances in the field of clinical psychopharmacology, with particular attention given to controversial findings. The ultimate aims are: to help develop a more critical attitude towards the results of research studies published in the international literature; to promote original research projects with higher methodological standards; and to implement the most relevant results of research in everyday clinical practice.

These contributions are written in house by the Journal's Editorial team or commissioned by the Section Editor. Authors will be invited via the online submission system to submit to this section, and these papers should not be submitted speculatively (these should be no more than 1000 words, plus a short 200 word unstructured abstract, maximum of fifteen references, one Table or Figure. Authors must also select four keywords to be included).

Epidemiology for Behavioural Neurosciences (edited by Paolo Brambilla). This Section of *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* appears every second issue of the year and focusses on the relevance of epidemiology for behavioural neurosciences, reporting the results of studies that explore the use of an epidemiological approach to provide a better understanding of the neural basis of major psychiatric disorders and, in turn, the utilisation of the behavioural neurosciences for promoting innovative epidemiological research. The ultimate aim is to help the translation of most relevant research findings into everyday clinical practice. These contributions are written in house by the journal's editorial team or commissioned by the Section Editor. Authors will be invited via the online submission system to submit to this section, and these papers should not be submitted speculatively. (These should be no more than 1000 words, plus a short 200 word unstructured abstract, maximum of fifteen references, one Table or Figure. Authors must also select four keywords to be included).

Instruments. This Section appears occasionally and includes original articles focusing upon new scales, questionnaires and other assessment measurements relevant to epidemiological psychiatric research. This article type should be submitted as an Original Article via the online submission system detailed below. Authors submitting an Original Article may request inclusion in this Section, but this decision is at the sole discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and the Senior Associate Editors.

Submission of Manuscripts

Authors may submit their **Original Articles** or **Letters to the Editor** online via the website:

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/eaps>

All other paper types require the author to be invited via the online submission system, and should not be submitted online without consultation with the appropriate Editor as detailed above.

NOTE: There are no fees associated with submission, peer review, or publication with EPS. An article processing charge only applies if the author(s) choose to publish under the Gold Open Access option (details of which are below).

If you have any questions about the submission of your manuscript please contact the Editorial Office, Lynet Smith, at lsmith@cambridge.org

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All contributions (excluding invited Editorials) are accepted for publication based on feedback during external peer review.

Title Sheet: The following information must be given on the first page (title sheet): (1) title and short title for running head (not more than 60 characters); (2) authors' names (only the initial of each author's first name/s should be given, followed by the surname/s), (3) department in which the work was done, (4) word count of text excluding abstract, tables/figures and reference list.

Generally papers (Special articles, Original articles, Instruments) should not have text more than 4000 words in length (as outlined above) and should not have more than a combined total of six tables and/or figures. Papers shorter than these limits are encouraged. For papers of unusual importance the editors may waive these requirements.

A structured abstract of no more than 400 words should be given at the beginning of Special articles, Original articles, and Instruments, using the headings: Aims; Methods; Results; Conclusions. Short unstructured abstracts should precede Editorials (no more than 300 words), and should be no more than 200 words for articles in the Sections of Epidemiology for Clinical Psychopharmacology, and of Epidemiology for Behavioural Neurosciences.

The name of an author to whom correspondence should be sent must be indicated and a full postal address given in the footnote.

All submissions must be in English and should include, at the end of the text (before the References section), the Required Statements (Acknowledgements, Financial support, Conflicts of Interest, Ethical Standards) outlined below.

Contributors should also note the following:

- 1 S.I. units should be used throughout in text, figures and tables.
- 2 Authors should spell out in full any abbreviations used in their manuscripts.
- 3 Foreign quotations and phrases should be followed by a translation.

Authorship:

Authorship confers credit and has important academic, social, and financial implications. Authorship also implies responsibility and accountability for published work. Authors submitting to *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* are asked to follow the [ICMJE guidelines for Defining the Role of Authors and Contributors](#) to ensure that authors and non-author contributors are correctly designated as such.

Reporting Guidelines

Authors must check the EQUATOR Network site (<http://www.equator-network.org/>) for any reporting guidelines that apply to their particular study design and ensure they include any required information recommended by the relevant guidelines

Study Protocol Registration

In accordance with the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors' Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (ICMJE Recommendations 2013), Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences will not consider reports of clinical trials unless they were registered prospectively before recruitment of any participants. The registration details should be added to the last line of the abstract.

Even though there are no well-established rules about the registration of studies other than for clinical trials, Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences supports the registration of protocols in publicly accessible registries for all types of clinical studies, including observational studies and systematic reviews. The registration details, if the observational study has been registered, should be added to the last line of the abstract.

Data Sharing

As we are keen to maximise the usefulness and usage of data and promote transparency and accountability, for all research articles (randomized controlled trials, observational studies, systematic reviews and meta-analyses) authors are encouraged to link their articles to the raw data from their studies. We encourage authors to ensure that their datasets are either deposited in publicly available repositories (where available and appropriate) or presented in the main manuscript or additional supporting files whenever possible. All authors must include an "Availability of Data and Materials" (see below) section in their manuscript detailing where the data supporting their findings can be found. Authors who do not wish to share their data must state that data will not be shared, and give the reason.

Manuscript Formatting

Authors should follow carefully the following instructions:

- Divide the manuscripts into headings (e.g. for experimental studies: Introduction, Method, Results, Discussion);
- Underline words and phrases in the text that should be printed in italics;
- Use a dot before a decimal rather than a comma (English style) both in the text and in tables and figures (e.g. 0.08);
- Cite in the text only the references that are included in the reference list. For articles by a single author, provide the surname and year of publication (e.g.: Reissland, 2000). For articles published by two authors, provide both surnames, with the symbol ' & ' between them and the year of publication (e.g.: Evans & Huxley, 2001). For articles by more than two authors, provide only the first name followed by et al. and the year of publication (e.g. Atkinson et al., 1997). If there is more than one reference by the same author(s) in the same year of publication, indicate this with letters a, b, c after year of publication both in the text and in the reference list (e.g.: Jones, 1999a; Jones, 1999b; etc.). More detailed referencing instructions are found in the next section

References

(1) The Harvard (author date) system should be used in the text and a complete list of References cited given at the end of the article. In a text citation of a work by more than two authors cite the first author's name followed by et al. (but the names of all of the authors should be given in the References section). Where several references are cited together they should be listed in rising date order.

(2) The References section should be in alphabetical order. Examples follow:

Brown GW (1974). Meaning, measurement and stress of life events. In *Stressful Life Events: Their Nature and Effects* (ed. B. S. Dohrenwend and B. P. Dohrenwend), pp. 217-244. John Wiley: New York.

Brown J. (1970). *Psychiatric Research*. Smith: Glasgow.

Brown J, Williams E, Wright H (1970). Treatment of heroin addiction. *Psychological Medicine* **1**, 134-136.

Note: authors' names should be in **bold** font; journal titles should always be given in full and should be in *italics*.

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Acute Health Care, Rehabilitation and Disability Prevention Research National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. (<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/profiles/acutecare/default.htm>). Accessed 7 June 2004.

British Psychological Society Research Digest, Issue 12. (<http://lists.bps.org.uk/read/messages?id=1423>). Accessed 17 February 2004.

NOTE: Users of EndNote referencing software can download and use the most recent *Psychological Medicine* output style to format references correctly for EPS. The style is available [here](#).

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Required Statements

Acknowledgements

You may acknowledge individuals or organisations that provided advice, support (non-financial). Formal financial support and funding should be listed in the following section.

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