


JHP: A Journal Dedicated to Environmental and Occupational Health Research from Low-Resource Settings

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The *Journal of Health and Pollution (JHP)* was relaunched in September 2023 as a member of the EHP Publishing group with support from the US National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences,¹ expanding the long-standing commitment of the group to fostering global knowledge exchange.² *JHP* aims to publish high-quality research on global environmental and occupational health from low-resource settings that remain poorly represented in the peer-reviewed literature.

The most recent update by the *Lancet* Commission on pollution and health,³ which used data from the Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study 2019,⁴ found there is deep inequity in the health burden attributable to pollution, with nearly 92% of an estimated 9 million pollution-related deaths and the greatest burden of pollution-related economic losses occurring in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). The large burden combined with the sparse reported evidence make it imperative to encourage efforts to increase reporting of research from low-resource settings.

JHP strives to bridge the “evidence gap” by showcasing work led by researchers, professionals, and practitioners with residency or primary affiliations at institutions located in LMICs or Indigenous communities. The journal applies a broad understanding of “pollution” that includes any environmental agent that is known or suspected to negatively affect human health and well-being. It focuses on challenges often faced in LMICs, including household and ambient air pollution, persistent chemical exposures, water scarcity and contamination, occupational hazards, food security and nutrition, expanding urbanization, climate change, and extreme weather events, among others.^{5,6} This is expected to facilitate prioritization of solutions and opportunities to address some of the most pressing environmental health challenges in these regions.

JHP also strives to strengthen capacity among scientists who have conducted outstanding research in resource-constrained environments so that this work is presented in a high-quality journal. To enable this, *JHP* provides a fully open-access platform for publication while also offering developmental editing services for eligible authors. Furthermore, *JHP* is dedicated to supporting equitable research partnerships

between scientists globally and discourages the conduct of “helicopter research” in which investigators from local communities are not fully immersed and included in the research from conceptualization to publication.⁷ Such an initiative not only raises the visibility of research conducted where funding is limited but also fosters partnerships between research groups and communities as part of moving the research agenda beyond the principles of traditional collaborative environmental health research.

With a broad reach, *JHP* will publish original articles, systematic and scoping reviews, commentaries, and case reports that will be useful not only to researchers but also to the wider environmental health community, including policy makers, advocates, educators, environmental health practitioners, and others who are interested in environmental health topics, especially in under-resourced settings. *JHP* welcomes a wide range of disciplines and research methodologies, such as exposure science, experimental toxicology, epidemiology, risk assessment, policy and social sciences, and data science approaches in environmental health. Given the burgeoning data streams from environmental health research, the latter is especially important.

As the editor-in-chief and deputy editors of *JHP*, we will maintain the quality and integrity of the research published in *JHP* with active support from EHP Publishing. This is particularly important considering our desire to maintain and improve on *JHP*'s recently reported Journal Impact Factor of 2.4 (as of June 2023).

As the newest member of the EHP Publishing group, *JHP* is well poised to fulfill the mandate of publishing high-quality scientific evidence for tackling major environmental and occupational health problems that disproportionately affect populations in low-resource settings, across all global regions.

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