

## **The Burden of Disease in Latin America: A Special Issue for the Journal Public Health**

We are delighted to announce a call for papers on **The Burden of Disease in Latin America** for *Public Health* to be published in a special issue.

Public Health is an international, multidisciplinary peer-reviewed journal. It publishes original research papers, reviews (up to 3000 words in length) and short reports (up to 1500 words) on all aspects of the science, philosophy and practice of public health. It is aimed at all public health practitioners, researchers, and those who manage and deliver public health services and systems. It is also of interest to anyone involved in the provision of public health programmes, the care of populations or communities and those who contribute to public health systems in any way.

The burden of disease is the impact of a health problem on a given population. It can be measured using mortality, morbidity or financial cost indicators. The most important indicator used to measure the burden of disease is the 'Disability-Adjusted Years of Life' (DALY), a standardised metric obtained by the sum of mortality and morbidity. Using standardised health metrics allows direct comparisons of the health gap due to different diseases between countries, diverse populations and over time.

The focus of this special issue is studies that analyse the burden of disease in Latin American countries, in its different aspects, using health metrics, such as mortality rate, potential years of life lost (YLL), DALY, prevalence and incidence, in addition to the burden of disease attributed to risk factors. The main interest is in studies related to chronic non-communicable diseases (NCD), maternal and child diseases, communicable diseases and external causes using country and subnational data.

We will prioritise articles reporting original research questions that generate new and impactful knowledge about the burden of disease in Latin America, using data from the 'Global Burden Diseases' (GBD) study by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). We are particularly interested in studies beyond the simple description of the estimates provided by the IHME. We will also consider high-quality studies in the epidemiology of health and disease in Latin America using other sources, mainly secondary or population-based datasets. Examples of such a more complex approach include studies in the methodology of the burden of disease calculation, comparison of IHME data with other data sources, comparison of different countries or regions, analysis of disease burden in small areas or health districts/municipality level and studies on the economic burden.

Examples of studies that are of interest include (always for Latin American countries or regions):

- The triple burden of disease and the epidemiological transition
- Achieving the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2030
- Health costs attributable to NCD-related interventions
- Burden related to neglected tropical diseases in different countries

Further information about submission requirements can be found at:

<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/public-health>. Authors should select the 'SI: Burden of disease in Latin America' article type when uploading their article.

If authors would like the Guest Editors to assess the suitability of an article for the special issue, please send the manuscript title and abstract to the Editorial Office: [publichealth@rsph.org.uk](mailto:publichealth@rsph.org.uk). The deadline for submission to the special issue is **30 April 2024**.