

## 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. EPS is published quarterly (in March, June, September and December).

### Editorial Policy

*Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* publishes the following articles:

**Original articles:** These should be no more than 4000 words, excluding the structured abstract. The structure of the abstract should be as follows: Aims, Methods, Results, Conclusions. 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.

**Editorials:** These should be no more than 3000 words, excluding references, tables and figures. A non-structured abstract and 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 jointly by one of the Associate Editors and the Editor, with no more than 1500 words, excluding references, and with no abstract required.

**Special Articles:** These should be no more than 4000 words, excluding the structured abstract, references, tables and figures, and 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.

**Commentaries:** These should be no more than 1500 words, excluding 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, excluding references; no more than a combined total of three tables and no more than 20 references. Authors must also select four keywords to be included, and an abstract is not required).

The Editor will also consider **Methodological Contributions, Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses** (no more than 4000 words, excluding structured abstract, 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:

**Instruments** (edited by Mirella Ruggeri) focuses upon scales, questionnaires and other assessment measurements, relevant to epidemiological psychiatric research. The format must be the same than that of original articles. Please send an outline to the Editor-in-Chief ([michele.tansella@univr.it](mailto:michele.tansella@univr.it)) before submitting the contribution.

**Contemporary Outsider Art** (edited by Carole Tansella). This Section of *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 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 should be no more than 800 words, excluding references. Authors must also select four keywords, and may include up to ten references).

**Epidemiology for Clinical Psychopharmacology** (edited by Corrado Barbui). This Section of *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* stress 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. (These should be no more than 1000 words, and include a short unstructured abstract, four author-selected keywords, one Table or Figure and up to ten references).

**Epidemiology for Behavioural Neurosciences** (edited by Paolo Brambilla). This Section of *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* stress the relevance of epidemiology for behavioral 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. (These should be no more than 1000 words, with a short unstructured abstract, four keywords, one Table or Figure and up to ten references).

## Submission of manuscripts

All papers submitted for publication should be addressed to the Editor:

**Professor Michele Tansella**

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Please ensure that you copy Associate Editor, Professor Corrado Barbui into your submission:

**Professor Corrado Barbui**

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**All submissions must be made electronically by email, with cc to Professor Barbui.**

A covering letter should give full mailing, fax and email contact details of the author who will handle correspondence. Submission of a paper will be held to imply that it contains original work that has not been previously published and that it is not being submitted for publication elsewhere. This should be confirmed in the letter of submission. When an article has been accepted for publication, the authors should email their final version together with copies of all tables, figures, etc. The papers published in EPS are protected by copyright and cannot be published elsewhere without written permission given by the Publisher.

All contributions (excluding invited Editorials) are accepted for publication after 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 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 250 words should be given at the beginning of Special articles, Original articles, Instruments, using the headings: Aims; Methods; Results; Conclusions. Short unstructured abstracts (no more than 150 words) should precede Editorials, and 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.

## Manuscript Formatting

Authors should follow carefully the following instructions: divide the manuscripts into headings (e.g. for experimental studies: Introduction, Method, Results, Discussion); underline in the text words and phrases which 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*.

(3) References to material published online should follow a similar style, with the URL included at the end of the reference, with the accession date, if known. Authors are requested to print out and keep a copy of any online only information, in case the URL changes or is no longer maintained. Examples follow:

**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.

## Figures and tables

Only essential figures and tables should be included. Further tables, figures, photographs and appendices, may be included with the online version on the journal website.

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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.

### Financial Support

Please provide details of the sources of financial support for all authors, including grant numbers. For example, "This work was supported by the Medical research Council (grant number XXXXXXXX)". Multiple grant numbers should be separated by a comma and space, and where research was funded by more than one agency the different agencies should be separated by a semi-colon, with "and" before the final funder. Grants held by different authors should be identified as belonging to individual authors by the authors' initials. For example, "This work was supported by the Wellcome Trust (A.B., grant numbers XXXX, YYYY), (C.D., grant number ZZZZ); the Natural Environment Research Council (E.F., grant number FFFF); and the National Institutes of Health (A.B., grant number GGGG), (E.F., grant number HHHH).

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Please provide details of all known financial, professional and personal relationships with the potential to bias the work. Where no known conflicts of interest exist, please include the following statement: "None."

### Ethical Standards

Where research involves human and/or animal experimentation, the following statements should be included (as applicable): "The authors assert that all procedures contributing to this work comply with the ethical standards of the relevant national and institutional committees on human experimentation and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 2008." and "The authors assert that all procedures contributing to this work comply with the ethical standards of the relevant national and institutional guides on the care and use of laboratory animals."

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