

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](#).

YRE AUTHORS

At time of submission, all YRE authors must be matriculated as PhD students in an accredited university. YRE authors are typically engaged in research in public health sciences, although the YRE board of editors may decide to invite PhD students from other fields. Typically, one author writes the YRE but co-authorship of up to two co-authors may be accepted. A young researcher can submit a YRE up to 12 months after the defence of the own PhD thesis.

CONTENTS of YRE

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 the IJPH author guidelines for [editorials](#). The following rules also apply:

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 pre-screened by the YRE team of editors
- 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 and a 3rd round after professional content editing (see below)
- 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 medical content editor will review the text as a final quality control. This content editing constitutes an important training step and we encourage authors to take the comments very seriously. The professional content editing will lead to another round of revisions. Finally, the YRE editor-in-chief or a team member checks whether the editor's suggestions have been well received. Content editing is free to YRE authors and is funded by SSPH+.
- Please always be aware that publishing an YRE is a training exercise. Remember that writing an YRE is very different from writing a PhD thesis or journal article. Be ready to accept critical feedback. Before writing an YRE, it might be helpful to read and analyze previously published editorials ([here](#) and [here](#))

Contact: IJPH Editorial Office: ijph@swisstph.ch