

**Call for Submissions
Journal of Pediatric Psychology**

Special Issue on Addressing Health Disparities in Pediatric Psychology

JPP Guest Editors: Cecelia Valrie, PhD, Idia Thurston, PhD & Melissa Santos, PhD

Letter of Intent Deadline: May 1, 2019

Manuscript Submission Deadline: November 1, 2019 (*for LOIs invited to move forward only*)

Addressing health disparities within pediatric populations has been a long-standing goal of the Society of Pediatric Psychology. Kilbourne and colleagues (2006)¹ provide a useful framework for progressing health disparities research across three phases: detection, understanding, and reduction/elimination. In 2008 and 2016, JPP published special issues on health disparities that were focused on phase one (i.e., detection of health disparities in pediatric populations). Building on this work, the current special issue aims to promote research focused on phase two, (i.e., understanding mechanisms driving health disparities in pediatric populations) and phase three (i.e., reducing/eliminating health disparities within pediatric populations via interventions, translation and dissemination research, and policy change).

Consistent with Kilbourne et al (2006), we define health disparities as “observed clinically and statistically significant differences in health outcomes and health care use between socially distinct vulnerable and less vulnerable populations.” Vulnerable populations are defined as “groups that have faced discrimination because of underlying differences in social status.” This definition is inclusive of racial and ethnic minorities, gender and sexual minorities, immigrants, individuals with low socioeconomic status, individuals with a disability, and other groups who have, or currently experience, discrimination that could lead to health disparities.

We encourage all potential authors to review the Kilbourne et al (2006) article. Submissions may include: quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods articles, as well as systematic and conceptual reviews that provide frameworks for advancing research on health disparities among pediatric populations. Areas of particular interest include articles that: (1) apply concepts of diversity science, intersectionality of social identities, implicit bias, community engagement, and/or cultural humility to understand or reduce health disparities; (2) consider the multilevel nature of health disparities by focusing on two or more of the following: patient, provider, clinical encounter, institution, and health care system factors; (3) explore risk and resilience factors in the implementation or acceptability of interventions addressing health disparities, and (4) address the role of diversity and cultural competency/humility in pediatric psychology training.

Final manuscripts will be due **November 1, 2019**. We ask that authors submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) by **May 1, 2019**. LOIs and other inquiries should be emailed directly to Dr. Cecelia Valrie (cvalrie@vcu.edu) with subject line *JPP Health Disparities Special Issue*. LOIs should be no longer than 1 page and should summarize the primary questions or purpose of the research, the nature of the sample, methods, proposed analytic approach, and relevance to the special issue theme, including what health disparities phase(s) is being addressed, and the scientific impact. Papers with approved LOIs should be prepared in compliance with JPP's Instructions to Authors (<http://jpepsy.oxfordjournals.org/>) and submitted through the ScholarOne Manuscript Central™ submission portal (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jpepsy>). All submitted manuscripts will undergo peer review prior to a final decision on publication. Papers that are not appropriate for inclusion in this special issue may be rerouted (with the authors' knowledge and consent) for consideration for publication in *JPP* as regular papers.

¹ Kilbourne, A.M., Switzer, G., Hyman, K., Corwley-Matoka, M., & Fine, M. J. (2006). Addressing health disparities research within the health care system: A conceptual framework. *Framing Health Matters*, 96(12), 2113-2121.