Call for Submissions

Journal of Pediatric Psychology

Special Issue on Prevention in Pediatric Pain

Guest Editors: Tonya Palermo, PhD and Amy Lewandowski Holley, PhD

Submission deadline: March 1, 2017

Pain is a common pediatric health problem, with severe and disabling pain occurring in 5-10% of youth. Progress has been made in research on the prevalence and impact of pain in children and adolescents and efficacious psychological treatments for chronic pain are emerging. However, there remain major gaps in the care of pediatric patients with pain conditions, partly due to the lack of prompt and effective pain treatment being delivered. A number of organizations including the International Association for the Study of Pain and the National Institute of Health’s Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee have highlighted the importance of prevention efforts in strategies to address pain at the system and population level. For example, in the United States the National Pain Strategy recommends that “Every effort should be made to prevent illnesses and injuries that lead to pain, the progression of acute pain to a chronic condition, and the development of high-impact chronic pain.”

In order to ensure that children and adolescents are included in pain prevention initiatives a research base needs to be generated to clearly identify which children are at increased risk of developing chronic pain. Further, research is needed on the effectiveness of pain prevention strategies including use of assessment tools and intervention approaches in multiple settings including primary care. Therefore, the purpose of this special issue is to feature research in the area of prevention and pediatric pain that provides insight into risk factors for pain and strategies that may prevent pain from becoming chronic and disabling. We anticipate manuscripts that focus on a broad range of areas pertinent to pain prevention. For the purpose of this special issue, primary prevention includes efforts to reduce pain-related impact of injury or disease, secondary prevention includes strategies to reduce the likelihood of acute pain transitioning to chronic pain, and tertiary prevention is focused on limiting disability associated with pain. We are interested in papers across the range of prevention, including but not limited to: (a) randomized controlled intervention trials; (b) observational studies with prospective, longitudinal designs; (c) topical reviews presenting novel theoretical perspectives, models, or clinical strategies; and (d) systematic reviews examining the research literature in this area. We also expect manuscripts to highlight implications for clinical practice, research, and/or policy.

Submissions will be due on March 1, 2017.

Papers 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). Manuscripts will be peer reviewed. 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.
Please indicate in the cover letter accompanying your manuscript that you would like to have the paper considered for the Special Issue on Prevention in Pediatric Pain.

Please direct all inquiries to Tonya Palermo at tonya.palermo@seattlechildrens.org.