

**Invitation to Contribute to a Special Issue of the Health
Promotion Journal of Australia:**

*Health Promotion in the Western Pacific: celebrating success stories
and tackling the challenges.*

Special Issue Call for Abstracts:

Health Promotion in the Western Pacific: celebrating success stories and tackling the challenges.

Overview

The Western Pacific Region covers a wide geographical territory in the Asia Pacific and includes many culturally diverse nations. The region includes 37 countries and, is home to almost 1.9 billion people. The health and wellbeing of the region also varies greatly. For example, some countries like Australia and New Zealand experience high life expectancy coupled with high levels of investment in the health system, although there is inequitable access and outcomes for many marginalised and vulnerable communities. For other nations in the region there are significant constraints on their ability to invest adequately in the health system and are trying to tackle multiple health and social issues in culturally responsive ways to improve life expectancy and quality of life. The region as a whole has experienced improvements in health and life expectancy, which have driven economic and social development in many countries.¹ Much of this relates to the Western Pacific Region's rich history of community development and innovative health promotion research, policy and action.

This special issue of the *Health Promotion Journal of Australia* aims to showcase the great and groundbreaking work of health promotion researchers, policymakers and practitioners from across the Western Pacific Region. It also aims to strengthen the Journal's footprint in the region, and to support the Western Pacific health promotion workforce to share their knowledge, expertise, and lessons with the broader health promotion community. The special issue seeks submissions on the range of health promotion activities currently underway to address the health and equity issues facing the region, including novel research and innovative health promotion practice; success stories; and responses to regional health challenges. The Special Issue will draw on the work of leading researchers and policy professionals and practitioners from across the region, and focus on critical success factors, collaborative and joined up approaches

mechanisms and tools, workforce issues, and the political settings necessary for promoting equitable and positive change.

We are keen to receive submissions reporting on:

- Research and strategies that contributes to improved health, wellbeing and equity being experienced across the Region. What works, what holds promise and where are the knowledge gaps?
- What is the role of the health promotion community in a Western Pacific Region. What knowledgebase, skill sets and competencies exist and are required to tackle future issues. Are there unique issues experienced in the region and how does this impact the health promotion workforce.
- Collaboration, with community and stakeholders from diverse sectors and backgrounds is at the heart of the health promotion practice. What partnerships are working well, where are the challenges and what can we learn from the failures.
- Experience of health promotion research and practice from low- and middle-income countries from across the western pacific are particularly welcomed.
- Research and/or strategies that explore cultural diversity within country and across the region. How does culture influence health promotion practice and research. How can health promotion be more culturally safe and responsive?
- Achieving the sustainable development goals ... do they still matter in the region; how are they being tackled and by who.

Guest Editors

- Associate Professor Carmel Williams – Guest Editor: Centre for Health in All Policies, Health Translation SA and School of Public Health University of Adelaide
- Associate Professor Michelle Dickson – Guest: The Poche Centre for Indigenous Health, Faculty of Medicine and Health. University of Sydney
- Dr Louise Baldwin- Guest Editor: School of Public Health and Social Work Faculty of Health Queensland University of Technology and Global Vice President (Membership) International Union for Health Promotion and Education
- Dr Shelley Bowen – Guest Editor: Health Futures Australia
- Professor Louise Signal – Guest Editor: School of Public Health, University of Otago NZ
- Joana Lima Madureira Coordinator Health Enabling Societies, WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific
- Professor Vivian Lin, Professor of Public Health Practice, Hong Kong University.
- Mr Sione Tu’itahi, Executive Director, Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand and Global President, IUHPE

Call for Abstracts

You are invited to submit a 250-word abstract, including title, manuscript category, and list of authors by **5pm AWST 8 March 2024**. Abstracts will be reviewed for suitability by the Guest Editors, with the support of the Editor-in-Chief, Associate Professor Carmel Williams. All abstract submissions will be replied to by the 1 April 2024, and authors of successful abstracts will be required to submit a full manuscript by 1 July 2024. All manuscript submissions will be subject to peer review; approval of an abstract for subsequent full manuscript submission is not a guarantee of publication; and editorial decisions are final.

Project Timeline

- Title, abstract and list of authors due: 10 May 2024
- Receive invitation to submit full paper: 7 June 2024
- Manuscripts due: 1 September 2024
- Initial peer review decision: 24 December 2024
- Revise and resubmit if necessary: 7 February 2025
- Final decision: 1 May 2025
- Publication: June/July 2025

Submission Guidelines

The *Health Promotion Journal of Australia* welcomes a variety of manuscript types. This includes long research articles, short research articles, reviews, brief reports, commentaries, letters, and book reviews. For further information on manuscript categories, please visit:

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/22011617/homepage/forauthors.html>

On behalf of the *Health Promotion Journal of Australia*, we look forward to hearing from you via email at Carmel.Williams@healthtranslationsa.org.au by 8 March 2024. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

**Health Promotion
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