BMC’S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH: CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Supplement: Sexual and Reproductive Health Achievements, Challenges, and Learnings in Ethiopia

Mathematica Policy Research and Addis Continental Institute of Public Health are pleased to invite authors to submit abstracts for consideration in a special supplement of Reproductive Health. The supplement will focus on sexual and reproductive health (SRH) achievements, challenges, and learnings in Ethiopia over the past two decades, with an eye to informing progress moving forward. All papers included in the supplement will be both free-to-publish and free-to-view online.

Over the past 20 years, the Government of Ethiopia, in collaboration with local and international partners, has demonstrated increasing commitment to improving the SRH outcomes of women and young people through its efforts to improve access to health services, including reproductive health and family planning services. This commitment has resulted in improvements in key reproductive health indicators. Ethiopia continues to build upon these gains to meet the government’s goals in the Health Sector Transformation Plan and other country policies, as well as those set out in the Sustainable Development Goals.

This special supplement will bring together research on what has or has not worked to improve access to quality SRH services and related outcomes among women and young people in Ethiopia, providing rigorous scholarly analysis to contribute to the existing evidence and knowledge base. In addition to documenting Ethiopia’s SRH approaches and progress, the proposed journal supplement will capture evidence-based learnings emerging from the country’s SRH efforts and their implications for Ethiopia’s “unfinished” SRH agenda.

For this special supplement, authors may submit abstracts in three main topic areas:

- Family planning, reproductive health, and contraception
- Adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health
- Safe abortion services and care

Abstracts will be selected and the authors will be invited to submit a full manuscript, which will undergo BMC’s external peer review process. Submissions should present rigorous, scholarly, and original research addressing one or more of these three topic areas. Contributions may involve quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods research, and may focus on trends in key outcomes and indicators, evaluations of specific policies and programs, systematic literature reviews, or other original analyses.

The special supplement is being funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The guest editors are Dr. Kimberly Smith, Mathematica Policy Research, and Professor Yemane Berhane, Addis Continental Institute of Public Health.
**TIMELINE**

Authors should ensure they can meet the deadlines below when deciding whether to submit an abstract for consideration.

**Abstract submission: 30 April 2019**

All abstracts must be submitted by midnight GMT on 30 April 2019. Abstracts must be limited to 800 words. Detailed guidance is provided below.

**Notification of acceptance: 14 June 2019**

Authors will be notified of their acceptance by 14 June 2019. Authors may be asked to slightly revise the scope of their article to ensure coverage and alignment of topics within the special supplement.

**Full papers due: 27 September 2019**

Full papers will be due 27 September 2019. Please note that all submissions should adhere to BMC’s author guidelines, available [here](https://reproductive-health-journal.biomedcentral.com/).

**Submission of papers to Reproductive Health: November 2019**

After review by the guest editors and any subsequent revisions by the authors, papers will be submitted for peer review in November 2019 and will undergo the standard peer review process. There is no guarantee that a paper will be accepted by *Reproductive Health*.

**Target publication date for the special supplement: May 2020**

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION PROCESS**

All abstracts must be submitted for consideration via email to ldemaria@mathematica-mpr.com, with “Ethiopia SRH Special Supplement” in the subject line. Please attach the abstract to the email as a PDF or Word document.

Abstracts should be formatted as follows:

- **Proposed title of paper** – Include a descriptive title for the paper.
- **Corresponding author** – Include the name and email address of the corresponding author.
- **Authors** – Name all of the authors and their affiliations.
- **Brief description of relevance and contribution** – Please provide 2 to 4 sentences describing how this manuscript will address the focus of this special supplement and add to the existing literature.
- **Abstract text** – Provide an abstract of up to 800 words describing what the full paper will address. Abstract sections should comprise research objectives and background, methods, key results, and conclusion.

Acceptance of the abstract is not a guarantee of publication; authors will need to complete *Reproductive Health*’s peer review process. Please see [https://reproductive-health-journal.biomedcentral.com/](https://reproductive-health-journal.biomedcentral.com/) for more information about *Reproductive Health* and its publication guidelines and processes.

For additional information, please contact Lisa DeMaria, Special Supplement Coordinator, at ldemaria@mathematica-mpr.com. Please include “Ethiopia SRH Special Supplement” in the subject line of the email.