

PREVENTING CHRONIC DISEASE
PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH, PRACTICE, AND POLICY

YEAR IN REVIEW 2017



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

A Word from the Editor in Chief

This past year was one of the most important in PCD's history. In 2017 the journal conducted the first comprehensive evaluation of PCD since its inception in 2004, taking stock of progress to date and establishing a concrete, measurable action plan for moving forward with the assistance of experts both inside and outside the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

To improve the breadth and depth of PCD's scientific expertise, we assembled an impressive group of researchers and practitioners capable of recommending appropriate, high-quality manuscripts for publication. PCD appointed 16 new associate editors with experience in population health, health systems, implementation evaluation, geographic information systems, health economics, behavioral health, and applied epidemiology. These experts assist the journal in providing relevant and useful feedback to authors, reducing manuscript review time, and improving the quality of manuscripts.

The journal also published 2 important collections that describe research not previously published in indexed scientific literature. The first collection, "State and Local Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Chronic Diseases," recognizes that chronic diseases often occur simultaneously and result from interrelated risk factors. This collection showcases how 4 programs at CDC — diabetes; heart disease and stroke prevention; nutrition, physical activity, and obesity; and school health — can work together to address state and local efforts to improve health outcomes. The second collection, "The Childhood Obesity Research Demonstration (CORD) Project: Real-World Implementation of Multisetting Interventions to Address Childhood Obesity," focuses on real-world implementation of evidence-based interventions in multiple settings with the goal of improving healthy eating and increasing physical activity among low-income children.

In addition to promoting article collections, PCD developed a new article type, Implementation Evaluation, which provides readers with information on how public health programs and interventions are developed and evaluated on the basis of diverse factors in real-world settings. Implementation Evaluation articles offer an opportunity for authors to present results from tailored, setting-specific evaluation methods and approaches.

PCD also remained committed to providing opportunities for young researchers to contribute to public health and develop critical writing and reviewing skills through its Student Research Paper Contest. This past year the contest was expanded to include 4 categories of winners: high school, undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral. PCD received a record 72 contest entries for the 2017 contest.

And finally, after 13 years of progress, PCD conducted its first-ever external review to identify ways for the journal to continue to enhance its usefulness for its audience of researchers, practitioners, and policy makers. A panel of 7 nationally recognized experts in scientific publishing were invited to respond to key questions about the journal's mission, quality of scientific content, scope of operation, intended audience, and future direction. While they noted many positives of the journal's progress to date, they also identified important steps needed to take the journal to the next level.

In 2018 PCD plans to implement recommendations from the expert panel, including changes in our mission, vision, scope of interests, and article types, and increasing content in other important areas. The journal plans to focus on publishing a greater percentage of manuscripts addressing the development, implementation, and evaluation of population-based interventions to prevent chronic diseases and control their impact on quality of life, morbidity, and mortality. We encourage our readers to stay tuned for more exciting content, and we encourage potential authors to visit our website regularly to find articles and calls for papers on the latest topics of interest in chronic disease prevention and health promotion.

Sincerely,
Leonard Jack Jr, PhD, MSc
Editor in Chief
Preventing Chronic Disease

Metrics

2016 Impact Factor
1.802

Google Scholar h-Index
Top 20 Public Health Journal
14th among 118 open-access journals

PubMed/PubMed Central Total Citations
24,061 total citations in 2017

Submissions and Acceptance
PCD received **585** manuscripts in 2017
PCD **published 138** articles

CME Medscape
10,504 completed CME activities
for 2017

Page Views
995,359

Total Channel Views
1,961,711

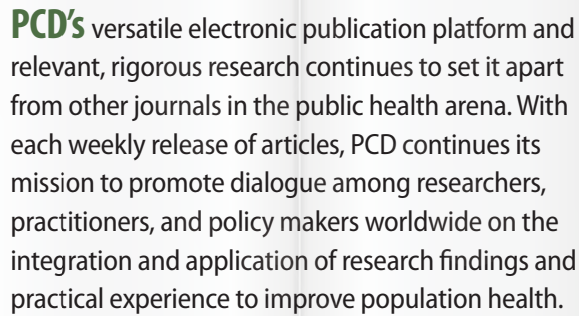
Circulation
78,871 online recipients

International Scope
PCD received **187** manuscripts
from **11** different countries

PDF Downloads
7,652



Scope and Focus



PCD's versatile electronic publication platform and relevant, rigorous research continues to set it apart from other journals in the public health arena. With each weekly release of articles, PCD continues its mission to promote dialogue among researchers, practitioners, and policy makers worldwide on the integration and application of research findings and practical experience to improve population health.

Each PCD release features articles from around the world on topics relevant to the prevention of chronic disease. Last year, the journal's most widely read articles addressed topics across a spectrum that included global trends in sugar-sweetened beverages, mammography use in Portugal, public health opportunities found in food waste, and quit methods used by smokers.

PCD's scope of interests evolves as the field of chronic disease prevention and health promotion advances to address the latest research and practice. Moving forward the journal intends to focus on these important areas:

- Development, implementation, and evaluation of population-based interventions to prevent chronic diseases and control their effects on quality of life, morbidity, and mortality.

- Behavioral, psychological, genetic, environmental, biological, and social factors that influence health.
- Interventions that reduce the disproportionate incidence of chronic diseases among at-risk populations.
- Development, implementation, and evaluation of public health law and health-policy-driven interventions.

To make sure this content reaches the largest possible audience, PCD continues to be an open access journal with articles available online free of charge. Full-text content of *Preventing Chronic Disease* is digitally archived each month and available via PubMed Central and CrossRef. Our articles are also available through CDC's mobile app for on-the-go access. And the journal continues to use social media as a platform for reaching those in the public health field.

These vital communication efforts further PCD's vision to serve as an influential journal in the dissemination of proven and promising public health findings, innovations, and practices with editorial content respected for its integrity and relevance to chronic disease prevention.



2017 Reviewers

Preventing Chronic Disease thanks its reviewers for their insightful critiques, thoughtful recommendations, and valuable assistance in contributing to the scientific quality and the integrity of articles published in PCD. See the full list of PCD reviewers at <http://bit.ly/2G8OShh>.

Most Talked About Articles of 2017



Thousands of conversations about scholarly content happen online every day. Altmeter tracks a range of sources to capture, collate, and score this activity. The following 2017 articles received the highest Altmeter scores.



1. Could EBT Machines Increase Fruit and Vegetable Purchases at New York City Green Carts?



2. Perceptions of Harm to Children Exposed to Secondhand Aerosol From Electronic Vapor Products, Styles Survey, 2015



3. Global Trends in the Affordability of Sugar-Sweetened Beverages, 1990–2016



4. Do No Harm: Moving Beyond Weight Loss to Emphasize Physical Activity at Every Size



5. Metabolic Syndrome Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity and Sex in the United States, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 1988–2012



6. Cardiometabolic Risk Factors Among 1.3 Million Adults With Overweight or Obesity, but Not Diabetes, in 10 Geographically Diverse Regions of the United States, 2012–2013



7. Quit Methods Used by US Adult Cigarette Smokers, 2014–2016



8. Screening for Food Insecurity in Six Veterans Administration Clinics for the Homeless, June–December 2015



9. Comorbid Arthritis Is Associated With Lower Health-Related Quality of Life in Older Adults With Other Chronic Conditions, United States, 2013–2014



10. The Influence of Parental Health Literacy Status on Reach, Attendance, Retention, and Outcomes in a Family-Based Childhood Obesity Treatment Program, Virginia, 2013–2015

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