



AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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AJPH CALL FOR PAPERS
SPECIAL SECTION ON THE 1988 INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE'S REPORT ON
THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The *American Journal of Public Health (AJPH)* intends to publish a special section that considers the impacts of the 1988 Institute of Medicine report on [The Future of Public Health](#) and 2002 follow-up report on [The Future of the Public's Health in the 21st Century](#) on contemporary public health practice.

Published 35 years ago, the 1988 *Future of Public Health* report was a watershed moment that defined the mission and core functions of governmental public health while also describing the “disarray” of the public health system and offering several recommendations for a fundamental course correction. The report had direct influence on several initiatives core to public health system integration and coordination, including the Ten Essential Public Health Services, the National Public Health Performance Standards, the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) to support voluntary accreditation for governmental public health agencies, the Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice, and many more. In addition, the 2002 *Future of the Public's Health in the 21st Century* report proposed six areas of action for the public health field focused on considering multiple determinants of population health, building intersectoral partnerships, strengthening the governmental public health infrastructure, developing systems of accountability, evidence-based decision making, and acknowledging the role of communications.

While these successes are worth celebrating, *AJPH* asks what recommendations went unheeded or were met with implementation failure? And equally, if not more importantly, what system recommendations were missing from *The Future of Public Health* and *21st Century* reports that need to be reconciled today? Responses to these and other related questions will form the basis of this special section, which seeks to highlight successes and failures directly following the reports and how these insights inform a new Future of Public Health/21st Century vision for public health in 2023.

Researchers in academia, public health practitioners, governmental public health agencies, medical professionals, and community-based organizations are invited to submit manuscripts. *AJPH* welcomes a range of article types for submission, including Research Articles, Notes From the Field, Analytic and History Essays, Editorials, and Images.

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Potential authors should visit the [AJPH website](#) to review the Instructions for Authors and specific guidelines for the various types of manuscripts. Submissions must include a cover letter formatted as requested in the Instructions for Authors. In all manuscripts, the number of words, references, and tables/figures must correspond to a specific *AJPH* article format. All manuscripts will undergo standard peer review by the *AJPH* editors and peer referees as defined by *AJPH* policy. **Manuscripts must be submitted to *AJPH* by August 31, 2023**, via the online submission system at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/ajph>. For additional information about this supplement, please contact associate editor Paul C. Erwin at perwin@uab.edu.

***AJPH* Associate Editor:** Paul C. Erwin, MD, DrPH