Call for Papers
Mass Incarceration as a Social–Structural Driver of Health Inequalities

The American Journal of Public Health (AJPH) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation intend to publish a supplemental issue focusing on how carceral systems operate as a social–structural determinant of health inequalities. Mass incarceration in the United States is a pressing civil rights, human rights, and public health crisis, and the result of social, political, and economic forces, rooted in legacies of slavery and oppression along lines of race and class. The theories, methods, and ethical foundations of public health must contribute to a growing movement to end mass incarceration and its harms on health. AJPH is seeking research articles, brief reports, analytic essays, systematic reviews, and commentaries exploring topics, including but not limited to: How components of justice systems engender health disparities via pathways of social–structural determinants, such as education, socioeconomic status, employment, housing, and civic engagement; methods for quantifying justice system exposures and effects across social–ecological levels; the role of community organizing and participatory research in empowering directly impacted communities; research on legislative or community-level interventions to address police violence, close correctional facilities, change drug policy, address living conditions in prisons, and combat institutional racism in justice systems to advance health equity; roles for health departments and schools of public health in reform; and international paradigms for shrinking carceral systems. The anticipated publication date for this supplement is January 22, 2020.

Authors should visit http://www.ajph.org to review the instructions for authors and guidelines for manuscripts. Submissions may be rejected that don’t comply with minimum criteria required for submissions in the Instructions for Authors. All viable submissions will undergo AJPH’s standard review process by AJPH editors and peer referees as defined by AJPH policy. Manuscripts must be submitted online to AJPH by April 24, 2019. For additional information, please contact AJPHpapercall@unc.edu or visit http://www.CJpapercall.web.unc.edu.

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