

Editorial

Adolescents—A New Open Access Journal

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It is our pleasure to introduce the new open access journal: *Adolescents* (ISSN 2673-7051). In *Adolescents*, we welcome papers that bring new insights to longstanding mainstream issues and controversies related to adolescent health and wellbeing; including, but not limited to, adolescent development; health and behavior in adolescents; health promotion and disease prevention; and contemporary topics in adolescent psychology, gynecology, oncology, school health and wellbeing, bullying, cyberbullying, and teen dating violence.

Adolescents are individuals in a period of their life course characterized as the transition between childhood and early adulthood. Adolescence is also one of the most rapid phases of human development, with cognitive developmental processes enabling and advancing deductive and inductive thought and moral reasoning. Psychosocial development during this developmental period is observed in the formation of new relationships and, optimally, the acquisition of attributes and abilities that will be important for enjoying their adolescent years and assuming adult roles.

Taken together, their rapid physical, cognitive, and psychosocial growth affects how adolescents feel, think, make decisions, and interact with the world around them. During this phase, adolescents establish patterns of behavior—for instance, related to diet, physical activity, substance use, and sexual activity—that can protect their health and the health of others around them, or put their health at risk now and later in the course of their life. The ultimate goal for publications in this journal is to help adolescents better develop knowledge and skills, learn to manage emotions and relationships, and acquire attributes and abilities that will be important for enjoying their adolescent years and assuming adult roles.

Although open access is usually supported by the payment of article processing charges (APCs) from the authors' research budgets, in order to attract high-quality research articles, *Adolescents* will not charge any publishing fees for manuscripts submitted by 31 December 2021 and accepted for publication following the standard peer review process.

We hope to work together with you—the authors, scientists, and scholars—to make *Adolescents* a high-quality source of information and ideas about recent advances in adolescent health and well-being. We consider it a privilege to work with you in making this vision a reality, and we look forward to receiving your contributions in the near future.

Conflicts of Interest: The author declares no conflict of interest.

Short Biography of Author



Dr. Laura Hayman, PHD, RN, FPCNA, FAHA, FAAN is Professor of Nursing at UMass Boston. She is also an Adjunct Professor, Division of Preventive and Behavioral Medicine, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, UMass Medical School. Dr. Hayman earned her BSN, MSN, and PhD at the University of Pennsylvania. Her program of research and scholarship has focused on primary prevention of obesity and risk for cardiovascular disease (CVD) in children, adolescents and families from diverse populations. Her recently completed and current interdisciplinary projects combine clinical and community-based approaches designed to promote healthy lifestyle behaviors and reduce risk for obesity and cardiometabolic conditions in children, adolescents and families and community-based research designed to reduce health disparities and promote health equity.

Dr. Hayman serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing, MCN: The American Journal of Maternal-Child Nursing and the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. She is a past president of the Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM) and a member of the Society's Health Policy Committee. Dr. Hayman has also served in leadership roles in the American Heart Association (AHA) and currently, she serves on AHA's International Committee. She holds fellowships in SBM, AHA, the American Academy of Nursing, the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research and PCNA.

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