

Scope	Journal Information
Contents	
Criteria for Publication	An influential venue for research and commentary on the major challenges to human health worldwide, <i>PLOS Medicine</i> publishes articles of general interest on biomedical, environmental, social and political determinants of health. The journal emphasizes work that advances clinical practice, health policy or pathophysiological understanding to benefit health in a variety of settings.
Editorial Oversight	
Competing Interests	
Submit Your Manuscript	<i>PLOS Medicine</i> is committed to upholding the highest ethical standards in medical publishing, including the management and disclosure of <a href="#">conflicts of interest in reporting, review, and publication</a> ; transparency in the <a href="#">review and publication process</a> ; <a href="#">data sharing</a> and reuse of work; authors' retention of <a href="#">copyright</a> ; Open Access publication with no restrictions on availability and dissemination; and avoiding the conflicts of interest presented by advertising for drugs and medical devices and exclusive sale of reprints.
Indexing and Archiving	
Publication Fees	
Open Access	

## Journal and Article Metrics

## PLOS

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**FURTHER READING**

[The PLOS Medicine Editors \(2009\) A Medical Journal for the World's Health Priorities. PLOS Med 6\(4\): e1000072. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1000072](#)

[The PLOS Medicine Editors \(2004\) Prescription for a Healthy Journal. PLOS Med 1\(1\): e22. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.0010022](#)

[Eisen MB, Brown PO, Varmus HE \(2004\) PLOS Medicine—A Medical Journal for the Internet Age. PLOS Med 1\(1\): e31. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.0010031](#)

**Scope**


*PLOS Medicine* publishes articles relevant to clinicians, policymakers, and researchers across a range of settings that address the major biological, environmental, social, and political determinants of health. The editors make decisions on submissions based upon their potential to directly and substantially inform clinical practice or health policy, and their relevance to our international audience.

Articles given highest priority for publication are those that address conditions or risk factors that cause the greatest losses in years of healthy life and quality of life worldwide.

*PLOS Medicine* also seeks to publish articles in the area of translational medicine that provide substantial, novel mechanistic insights into disease processes, with potential implications for clinical care. Additionally *PLOS Medicine* considers articles on topics relating to the integrity and ethics of the research enterprise; the practice of medicine; and the application of research to practice to fall within its scope.

**Contents**

- › Outstanding **research articles** in all areas of medicine and health, involving methodologies that may include clinical trials, systematic reviews/meta-analyses, epidemiology, diagnostic testing, predictive and explanatory modeling, cost-effectiveness research, qualitative studies, and clinically-focused translational research.
- › **Editorials** are written by the *PLOS Medicine* editors on topics of general medical interest or journal policy.
- › **Perspectives** discuss the clinical practice or public health implications of a *PLOS Medicine* study, or timely clinical and health topics or research studies published elsewhere.
- › The **Policy Forum** section provides a platform for health policymakers from around the world to discuss the challenges and opportunities in improving health care to their constituencies.
- › The **Guidelines and Guidance** section contains advice on conducting and reporting medical research.

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**Criteria for Publication**

*PLOS Medicine* is highly selective; approximately 10% of initial submissions ultimately progress to published articles. As of early 2017, *PLOS Medicine* invited full submissions from about 20% of initial submissions and published approximately 50% of full submissions as research articles. For manuscripts taken forward for in-depth consideration, *PLOS Medicine* applies rigorous editorial and peer review overseen by a team of professional editors and, in the case of research articles, an independent academic editor expert in the field.

In addition to being ethically conducted and scientifically valid, research published in *PLOS Medicine* should fulfill each of the following criteria:

1. The research question is an important one to the community of researchers in this general area.
2. The results provide a substantial advance over existing knowledge, with clear implications for patient care, public policy, or clinical research agendas.
3. Published together with an Author Summary written for general readers, the article is of interest to clinicians and policymakers who are not specialists in this topic.

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To support a constructive review process and objective decision making, *PLOS Medicine's* professional staff editors work in partnership with a distinguished international Editorial Board, including a panel of Specialty Consulting Editors with expertise in priority research topics.

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### Editorial Board

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## Competing Interests

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## PLOS

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