ehp ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PERSPECTIVES

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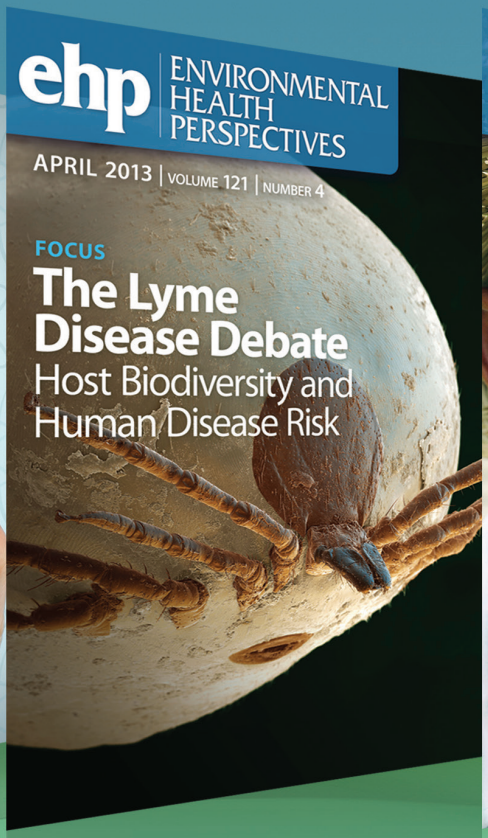
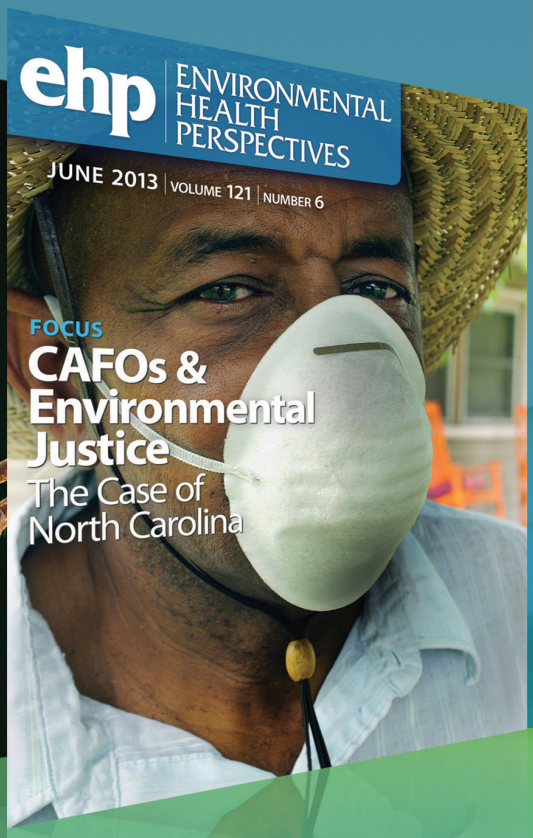
Overview 2013





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Overview

Environmental Health Perspectives

Editor-in-Chief: Hugh A. Tilson, PhD

Environmental Health Perspectives (*EHP*) is published with support from the U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) as a fully independent peer-reviewed scientific journal. *EHP* serves as a forum for the discussion of the interrelationships between the environment and human health by publishing high-quality peer-reviewed research and current, credible news of the field.

EHP supports global environmental health research through its policy of open access and commitment to dissemination of research and information to the developing world. In 2012 33% of papers accepted for publication in *EHP* were from corresponding authors residing outside the United States.

2012 Impact Factor: 7.26

- Ranked 4th of 209 journals in Environmental Sciences
- Ranked 2nd of 158 journals in Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health

Published since 1972, *EHP* went online-only in January 2013. *EHP* is open access, and all content is available for free online. Recent content is available at http://www.ehponline.org/, and archival content is available via PubMed Central at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/253/.

EHP Research

Science Editor: Jane C. Schroeder, DVM, MPH, PhD

EHP publishes articles from a wide range of scientific disciplines encompassing basic research, human studies, and *in vitro* and *in vivo* research with a clear relationship to human health effects. Each issue of *EHP* contains approximately 18–20 original Research Articles, 2–3 Commentaries, and 2–3 Reviews.

Highly represented research areas include epidemiology, toxicology, exposure science, risk assessment, public health, and climate change. In addition, each issue includes a section devoted to children's health research, and each year the October issue focuses on children's health. *EHP* also addresses ethical, legal, social, and policy issues. Studies dealing with ecological issues or effects on wildlife populations are welcome when the relevance of their findings to human health is evident.

EHP publishes special reports, collections, and proceedings, available at http://www.ehponline.org/collections (except where noted):

- *A Human Health Perspective on Climate Change*: *A Report Outlining the Research Needs on the Human Health Effects of Climate Change* (2010). Available at http://www.niehs.nih.gov/climatereport
- EHP *Children's Health Collection* (published annually)
- EHP *Bisphenol A (BPA) Collection 2007–2011*
- *Abstracts of the CEHN Conference on the Contribution of Epigenetics in Pediatric Environmental Health*. May 30–June 1, 2012
- *Abstracts of the 23rd Annual Conference of the International Society of Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE)*. September 13–16, 2011.
- *Abstracts of the 2013 Conference of the International Society of Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE), the International Society of Exposure Science (ISES), and the International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate (ISIAQ)*. August 19–23, 2013.

EHP News

News Editor: Susan M. Booker

EHP News offers groundbreaking reporting on environmental health issues targeted toward multidisciplinary investigators and interested nonscientists. Topics are vetted by the *EHP* News Committee, made up of scientists, policy specialists, and editors from throughout the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. All articles are reviewed by multiple subject-matter experts.

EHP News articles comprise a variety of formats:

- **Focus:** Feature articles of 2,500–3,500 words explore environmental health topics in depth.
- **Spheres of Influence:** Feature articles of 1,500–2,500 words on policy or legislative topics.
- **Innovations:** Feature articles of 1,500–2,500 words on innovative technologies or methods.
- **Science Selections:** Summaries of 700 words synopsizing *EHP* Research Articles, Commentaries, and Reviews from the concurrent issue.

Science Selections articles offer an avenue by which authors publishing in *EHP* can garner greater awareness of their work. Research articles are chosen for coverage as Science Selections on the basis of their novelty or impact in the field of environmental health, the public health importance of their findings, and/or their relevance to a wide audience.

EHP Online

Web Editor: Dorothy L. Ritter

EHP WEBSITE

As a leader in open-access scientific publishing, the *EHP* website at http://www.ehponline.org/ offers full free access to both the English and Chinese editions of the journal.

EHP is visited by readers from more than 150 countries. Nearly third-thirds of the visitors to *EHP*'s website in the past year were there for the first time.

SOCIAL MEDIA

EHP uses social media to keep readers up to date on new content as well as *EHP* appearances at meetings and news items of interest to the environmental health community. Follow us on Twitter (http://www.twitter.com/EHPonline) and Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/EHPonline).

PODCASTS

The Researcher's Perspective podcast series provides 52 behind-the-scenes looks at Research and News articles published in *EHP* and their human health implications.

Stay Connected

SIGN UP FOR *EHP* E-MAIL ALERTS INCLUDING:

- THE MONTHLY TABLE OF CONTENTS
- MONTHLY MOST READ IN *EHP*
- WEEKLY LIST OF ADVANCE PUBLICATIONS

VISIT http://eepurl.com/zzJdX

EHP Manuscript Submission and Review Process

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

EHP uses the Manuscript Central web-based manuscript submission and tracking system. Authors may track the progress of submitted manuscripts by logging in to the Manuscript Central Author Center.

ARTICLE TYPES

Correspondence (≤ 750 words) addresses specific scientific issues or questions raised by Research or News Articles published in the journal within the preceding 6 months.

Commentaries (≤ 5,000 words) present information and personal insight on a particular environmental health science topic. *EHP* reserves the right to propose that Commentaries be reviewed as one side of a point/counterpoint debate. Manuscripts on ethical, legal, social, or policy issues may also be accepted in this category.

Research Articles (≤ 7,000 words) report original scientific research and discovery from any field relevant to the study of human health and the environment.

Emerging Issue Reviews (≤ 5,000 words) identify emerging ideas, concepts, and trends in the area of environmental health sciences. Because the intent of the Emerging Issue Review is to get novel ideas into the literature in a timely fashion, the review of these manuscripts will be expedited.

Substantive Reviews (≤ 10,000 words) provide an overview, integration of information, and critical analysis of a particular field of research or theme related to environmental health sciences.

Quantitative Reviews and Meta-Analyses (≤ 10,000 words) present, contrast, and (when appropriate) combine data across studies to address a specific study question related to environmental health science.

Reviews Based on Meetings or Conferences (≤ 10,000 words) review the state of the science for a particular area, identify research gaps and needs, and explain how the outcome of the meeting or conference addresses those gaps and needs.

INITIAL REVIEW

Papers submitted to the journal undergo initial review by the Editor-in-Chief, the Science Editor, and consultants or staff to determine whether the paper should undergo peer review. This determination is based on the paper's relevance to environmental health science and human health specifically, its originality and potential to contribute new or important information to the field, the use of appropriate methods, interpretation and conclusions consistent with the data presented, and clarity of presentation.

- Approximately one-third of all papers submitted to *EHP* are selected for peer review.
- Authors of papers that are not selected for peer review are notified within 1 day to 2 weeks (median 7 days from the date of submission).

PEER REVIEW

Papers selected for peer review are assigned to members of *EHP*'s Board of Associate Editors, who identify potential reviewers, supervise the review process, and make recommendations to the Editor-in-Chief regarding revisions, rejection, or acceptance.

EHP's Editorial Review Board serves as a pool of potential reviewers, but outside reviewers are often involved in the review of each paper as well. Both the Board of Associate Editors and the Editorial Review Board are composed of leading scientists from all segments of the environmental health sciences, including academia, industry, advocacy groups, and nonprofit organizations.

- The overall acceptance rate for papers submitted to *EHP* is approximately 15%. However, almost half of all papers selected for peer review are accepted for publication.
- The average time from submission to final decision is 33 days for all papers and 89 days for papers that are peer reviewed. Papers that are published in *EHP* usually complete 1–3 rounds of peer review before they are accepted.

Publication in *EHP*

PROVISIONAL ACCEPTANCE

Papers recommended for acceptance by an Associate Editor undergo final internal review by the *EHP* Science Editor or Editor-in-Chief and by the *EHP* Editorial Facilitator. After the internal review is completed, authors are notified that their paper has been provisionally accepted pending their response to any requests for clarification, editorial suggestions, or formatting corrections (if needed, based on the final review). Authors are also asked to complete their own review of the paper and confirm it is ready for Advance Publication.

PRESS RELEASES

EHP staff work closely with authors' institutions to establish embargo dates to optimize press coverage of important new research. Authors who wish to make their papers available to media prior to online publication should contact the *EHP* News Editor when they receive their provisional acceptance notice.

ADVANCE PUBLICATION

Papers accepted for publication are published online within 3 working days unless authors request otherwise. Advance Publication articles are cited in PubMed within 2–3 days of online publication and are available in PDF format at http://www.ehponline.org/.

FINAL PUBLICATION

Before final online publication, articles undergo careful copyediting and formatting. Authors will have an opportunity to review page proofs prior to final publication.

FEES

There are no fees for submitting to or publishing in *EHP*.

COMPETING INTERESTS

EHP has a policy of full disclosure concerning competing financial and nonfinancial interests. Authors of Research Articles, Commentaries, Reviews, Correspondence, and Editorials must disclose potential competing interests, as described in *EHP*'s Instructions to Authors (http://www.ehponline.org/instructions-to-authors). For each manuscript, the corresponding author must submit a declaration of competing interests on behalf of all the authors. A statement of disclosure also must be submitted with the manuscript. A brief disclaimer describing the competing interest or a declaration of no competing interest is published in the Acknowledgments section of each article.

SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY

EHP requires assurances that animals used in studies have been treated humanely and with regard for the alleviation of suffering. Research involving humans must have been conducted according to the Common Rule (http://ori.dhhs.gov/education/products/ucla/chapter2/page04b.htm). Research involving human subjects also must be approved by an appropriate institutional review board and comply with all relevant national, state, and local regulations. Research that is exempt from U.S. federal regulations must be performed in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki (http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/).

EHP is sometimes confronted with issues regarding potential research misconduct. Instances of documented plagiarism and allegations of research misconduct will be brought to the attention of the authors' host institutions. Papers selected for peer review are evaluated for evidence of plagiarism using iThenticate before they are sent to Associate Editors.

For additional information on manuscript submission, review, and publication see *EHP*'s Instructions to Authors at http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/instructions-to-authors.

EHP International Program

Manager: Hui Hu

Through its International Program (http://www.ehponline.org/international), *EHP* seeks to expand the quality of and access to scientific information around the world.

EHP CHINESE EDITION

EHP Chinese Edition offers selected *EHP* content translated into Chinese. The Chinese-language edition premiered in 2001 as a quarterly publication. In 2004 *EHP* teamed up with the Shanghai Municipal Center for Disease Control and Prevention to distribute print issues of *EHP Chinese Edition* to some 30,000 subscribers in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore. *EHP Chinese Edition* is now published bimonthly in print and online.

The bulk of *EHP Chinese Edition* is made up of News articles first published in the English edition of *EHP*. Each issue also includes original or reprinted Editorials, Research abstracts from past issues of *EHP*, and occasional Commentaries and Reviews. *EHP Chinese Edition* is available online at http://www.ehponline.org/ehpce.

JOURNAL PARTNERSHIPS

EHP's international journal partnerships foster scientific exchange and further the shared scientific goals and missions of each partner through wider dissemination of scientific information to new audiences.

Journal of Environmental and Occupational Medicine—The *Journal of Environmental and Occupational Medicine* is a bimonthly journal published in Chinese by the Shanghai Municipal Center for Disease Control and Prevention, China. The journal

is indexed by multiple international indexing services.

Ciência & Saúde Coletiva—*Ciência & Saúde Coletiva* is a quarterly public health journal published in Portuguese by the Brazilian Association of Public Health and indexed in MEDLINE.

Ciencia y Trabajo—*Ciencia y Trabajo* is a regional Latin American occupational and environmental health journal published in Spanish by the Chilean Security Association. Each quarterly edition of *Ciencia y Trabajo* includes translated *EHP* News articles. *EHP* and *Ciencia y Trabajo* provide reciprocal links on their websites.

Mali Médical—*Mali Médical* is a quarterly medical journal published in French by the Société de Médecine du Mali (Medical Society of Mali). *EHP* hosts the *Mali Médical* website at http://www.malimedical.org/. The partnership between *Mali Médical* and *EHP* is a result of the African Journal Partnership Project, a multinational initiative that focuses on journal capacity building in Africa.

Environnement, Risques et Santé—*Environnement, Risques et Santé* is a bimonthly cross-disciplinary journal published in French by John Libbey Eurotext. The journal publishes articles on health issues relevant to climatology, toxicology, epidemiology, biophysics, earth and water sciences, and radiation, from identifying health risks to examining legislation and standards.

Salud Pública de México—*Salud Pública de México* is a peer-reviewed public health journal published bimonthly in Spanish by the National Institute of Public Health, Mexico. It is indexed in Current Contents/Social and Behavioral Sciences, Social Sciences Citation Index, and other Mexican index services. *Salud Pública de México* publishes translated *EHP* News articles.

TRANSLATED CONTENT

To help *EHP* fulfill its mission of disseminating scientific information not only to scientists but also to policy makers and an informed lay public, Spanish and French translations of selected Research and News articles are available through the *EHP* International Program website at http://www.ehponline.org/international.