Call for Papers
Epidemiologic Reviews
2017 Theme Issue (Volume 39)

Epidemiologic Reviews, a sister publication of the American Journal of Epidemiology, is devoted to publishing comprehensive and critical reviews on specific themes once a year. For the last several years, Epidemiologic Reviews has ranked in the top 5 in impact factor out of about 160 journals. The theme of the 2017 issue will be “Reducing cancer burden in the population: epidemiologic evidence to support policies, systems, and environmental changes.”

This issue will be a compilation of reviews that attempt to fill some of the evidence gaps in the epidemiologic literature on preventing cancer in those at risk and preventing poor outcomes in those with a cancer diagnosis. The overall goal of the issue is to support the development and implementation of changes in policy (e.g., prevention guidelines, laws), systems (e.g., in primary care or cancer care, including precision prevention and precision oncology), and environment (e.g., in the physical environment in neighborhoods, schools, workplaces) changes — that is, to support translation of epidemiologic research findings to reduce cancer burden in the population.

A classic example of the contribution of epidemiology to support policies, systems, and environmental changes is as follows: Epidemiologic evidence coupled with laboratory data definitively supported that smoking is a cause of cancer. That conclusion ultimately led to primary prevention approaches for smoking in the population, such as development of smoking cessation strategies and programs; national guidelines to screen patients in primary care for smoking and to offer cessation strategies; taxation of tobacco products; and clean indoor air laws prohibiting cigarette smoking. Subsequent epidemiologic evidence sufficiently supported that smoking reduces survival and otherwise adversely affects survivorship in cancer survivors. That conclusion ultimately led to tertiary prevention guidelines for those with cancer. Thus, there is an obvious path from epidemiologic evidence to action at policy, systems, and environment levels.

The editors encourage submission of review articles that do more than just summarize the epidemiologic literature: authors should have as the context for their reviews the generation of summary data to inform translation to reduce cancer burden. Global and life course perspectives are welcome as is a focus on special populations.

Examples of topics may include, but not limited to, early life or post-diagnostic diet, obesity, and physical activity; cancers not traditionally thought to be due to infection; risks versus benefits of sunlight exposure for primary and tertiary prevention; prevention of premature mortality due to other causes in cancer survivors; maximizing prevention of premature mortality from cancer and other chronic diseases simultaneously; cancer prevention strategies in those over 65 years old or those with other comorbidities.

Manuscripts can be up to 6,000 words exclusive of the abstract, tables, figures, and references. All papers must be reviews of studies that are mostly epidemiologic in nature; a report of a single study is not acceptable. Give explicit details of the method of literature search, and use systematic reviews or systematic reviews with meta-analysis when possible.

Consult the journal website for acceptable format: http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/epirev/about.html

Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts by January 11, 2016, to allow for early editorial input. Abstracts should be emailed to the editor-in-chief (mibrahi1@jhu.edu). Complete manuscripts are due March 21, 2016, which will be processed whether or not abstracts have been submitted.

Submit manuscripts online at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/epirev

Michel A. Ibrahim, MD, PhD
Editor-in-Chief; Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Elizabeth A. Platz, ScD, MPH
Chair, Editorial Committee; Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Kathryn Schmitz, PhD, MPH
Co-chair, Editorial Committee; Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of Pennsylvania
Tim Key, DPhil
Co-chair, Editorial Committee; Cancer Epidemiology Unit, Oxford University