



BioMed Research International

Special Issue on
**Child Health and Development in Lower and Middle
Income Countries**

CALL FOR PAPERS

The adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in November 1989, just over 25 years ago, made the world focus on the status of children. The fact that the UNCRC is the most widely and rapidly ratified human rights treaty in history, ratified by 195 of 197 countries, further underscores the importance that countries of the world place on their children.

A minority of the world's children live in countries designated as high income countries (HIC) and characterised by a gross national income per capita above US \$12,476. More than 80% of the world's children live in countries designated as lower and middle income countries (LMIC), characterised by lower incomes and in some cases high levels of extreme poverty. Further 90% of the increase in the world's population in the next few decades will occur in LMIC.

LMIC countries are known to have higher newborn, infant, and child mortality rates; higher undernutrition rates; lower school attendance rates; higher rates of exposure to all forms of violence and corporal punishment; and higher rates of child homicide. Together these result in greater likelihood of limitation of health and developmental and educational potential in the majority of the world's children. Despite the large proportion of the world's children living in less than optimal circumstances, too little of the published literature has primarily focused on the particular challenges of children in LMIC.

The editors of this journal are pleased to launch this new special issue.

This special issue is intended to present and discuss the current status of child health and child development in lower and middle income countries, thereby highlighting existing challenges to child well-being and identifying successful interventions to improve child outcomes.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Child mortality and child morbidity
- ▶ Early childhood development
- ▶ Adolescent health and development
- ▶ School performance
- ▶ Under- and overnutrition
- ▶ Developmental disabilities
- ▶ Child abuse
- ▶ Exposure to violence
- ▶ Child homicide

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/bmri/epidemiology/chdl/>.

Lead Guest Editor

Maureen Samms-Vaughan, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica
msammsvaughan@gmail.com

Guest Editors

Michael Lambert, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, USA
mclamber@email.unc.edu

Linda Richter, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa
lrichter@hsr.ac.za

Cecilia Essau, Roehampton University, London, UK
c.essau@roehampton.ac.uk

Prerna Banati, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence, Italy
pbanati@unicef.org

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