



Special issue on

PAHO/WHO COLLABORATING CENTRES: CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR COMMON GOALS

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The [Pan American Journal of Public Health \(PAJPH\)](#), published by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), announces a **Call for Abstracts** for an upcoming special issue on PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centres: *Celebrating the Achievement of our Common Goals*, to be published in 2022. Submitted abstracts will be assessed by an editorial committee and authors of selected abstracts will be invited to submit a full paper. This special issue will help illustrate how Collaborating Centres (CCs) are responding to public health needs in the Region and globally through PAHO/WHO's mandates.

In addition, this special issue will coincide with PAHO's 120th anniversary (December 2022) as the world's oldest international health organization and will be part of the PAJPH's 100-year celebration (May 2022) as an important vehicle for disseminating scientific public health information of international significance. The PAJPH is an open access, peer-reviewed journal, serving as the flagship scientific and technical periodic publication by PAHO. Manuscripts from this special issue will be shared on a dedicated PAHO webpage while indexed in PubMed, SCOPUS and EMBASE, among others.

BACKGROUND

WHO CCs are typically parts of institutions such as universities, hospitals, research institutes, academies or ministries that have been designated by the WHO Director-General to carry out activities in support of the Organization's programs.

Currently, there are more than 800 CCs in over 80 Member States. Within the Region of the Americas, there are over 180 PAHO/WHO CCs* in 16 Member States. CCs work with PAHO/WHO in areas such as

nursing, occupational health, communicable diseases, nutrition, mental health, chronic diseases, and health technologies, among others.

JUSTIFICATION

On 19-20 April 2021, PAHO convened all CCs located in the Region for a webinar: [Engaging Our Partners to Achieve the SDGs Together](#). Through the active participation of PAHO/WHO CCs, the Organization received several recommendations to help improve the working relationships between CCs and PAHO/WHO, increase the visibility of CCs' work, and find innovative ways of providing technical cooperation, among others.

One highly mentioned recommendation was to “publish a PAJPH special issue including articles reflecting CCs' work.” In response to this request, PAHO is providing CCs in the Region an opportunity to make their work with the PAHO/WHO visible in a well-recognized, peer-reviewed journal with a broad international audience.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) Encourage CCs to present activity/research results that contribute to evidence-based health policies.
- 2) Share lessons learned, recommendations, and/or best practices from activities developed jointly by CCs and PAHO/WHO.
- 3) Increase the visibility of CCs' work to advance health in the Region.

GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AND EDITORIAL PROCESS

Topics and focus

Authors may:

- 1.) present activities that are either included in the CC's workplan with PAHO/WHO or;
- 2.) present activities outside of the CC workplan

In the first case, the submission should highlight a collaborative activity carried out in the last four years that was tailored for and with PAHO/WHO. If the activity was part of a larger PAHO/WHO project, there should be a focus on the activity to which the CC contributed, and the role of the CC. Abstracts focused on such activities will be prioritized.

In the second case, the submission should highlight work that could be applicable to PAHO/WHO's technical cooperation, contribute to the achievement of PAHO/WHO's goals and mandates, or address a technical cooperation gap. This option will give PAHO the opportunity to learn more about the expertise and experiences CCs have to offer outside of the workplan.

Abstracts should be based on the CC's key expertise. They should include activity/research results; lessons learned; and recommendations and best practices that could be replicated across the Region and beyond.

NOTE: this issue is only open to PAHO/WHO CCs**

Abstract submission

Abstracts must be sent in English (maximum 250 words). However, authors of selected abstracts will be invited to submit a full paper which may be sent in English, Spanish or Portuguese. Abstracts can be submitted by individual CCs, a group of CCs, or as part of a CC network. There will be a limit of one submission per CC; group of CCs; or CC network.

Please send your abstract in a Word document to pahowhocc@paho.org with the subject line: *PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centres Special Issue* no later than **15 December 2021**. Please send the abstract using the attached template including: the title of the submission, the contact author's name and email, the CC's official name and reference number, the CC network name (if applicable), whether the activities are part of the CC workplan and the full abstract. A member of PAHO's Technical Secretariat will contact authors with a decision on submitted abstracts. If selected, the expected submission date for full manuscripts will be **15 May 2022**.

Editorial process

All abstracts will be assessed blindly by an Editorial Board. Based on their novelty, originality, applicability, and impact on regional public health, up to 14 abstracts will be selected and authors will be invited to send a full manuscript by the deadline above.

	<p>Editorial Board:</p> <p>Members (in alphabetical order)</p> <p>Mr. Ary Silva (Communication Department) Dr. Freddy Perez (Department of Communicable Diseases and Environmental Determinants of Health) Mr. Marcelo D'Agostino (Department of Evidence and Intelligence for Action in Health) Dr. Patricia Morsch (Department of Family, Health Promotion and Life Course) Dr. Silvia Cassiani (Department of Health Systems and Services) Dr. Claudina Cayetano (Department of Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health) Dr. Alex Camacho (Health Emergencies Department) Dr. Alejandro Morlachetti (Office of the Legal Counsel)</p> <p>PAHO Technical Secretariat</p> <p>Damian Vazquez, Managing Editor PAJPH Eliane Pereira dos Santos, Regional Advisor, Knowledge Management and Networks Sandy Weinger, Specialist, Collaborating Centres Shanice Christie, Consultant, Collaborating Centres</p>
	<p>Language of submissions:</p> <p>Preliminary abstracts must be sent in English. Full manuscripts may be written in Spanish, English or Portuguese.</p>
	<p>Publishing standards and types of manuscripts:</p> <p>The journal will consider original research articles, systematic reviews, special reports, brief communications, current topics papers, and opinion and analysis papers; please see the instructions for authors. Manuscripts should be submitted through the journal's electronic platform and will follow the journal's usual peer review procedures. Accepted manuscripts will be published under open access and will be indexed in PubMed Central and other international databases. Submission has no cost for authors.</p>

	Deadline: 15 December 2021
	Questions: Please send queries to: editor_rpsp@paho.org Please include in the subject line: PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centres Special Issue

*For historical reasons specific to the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB), WHO CCs located in the Region of the Americas are known as PAHO/WHO CCs.

**With the exception of FRA-125 and SPA-50.

www.paho.org/journal