Author Guidelines

Purpose of the Journal

The Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research (JBHS&R) is a quarterly, peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary journal that publishes articles on the organization, financing, delivery, and outcomes of behavioral health (including mental health, alcohol, and drug abuse) services. It is the official publication of the National Council for Behavioral Health (http://www.thenationalcouncil.org/)

Submission of Manuscripts

The JBHS&R will only review manuscripts for publication with the understanding that it has not been previously published (in full or in part) either in print or online, and is not currently being reviewed for publication elsewhere. The JBHS&R invites contributions in the form of Regular Articles (≤20 pages, not including references, tables, or figures), Brief Reports (≤13 Pages), Policy Perspectives (≤16 pages), Literature Reviews (≤20 pages), Commentaries (≤16 pages), Notes from the Field (≤10 pages), Letters to the Editor (≤1 page, not peer-reviewed), and Book Reviews (≤1 page, not peer-reviewed). Neither the length of the paper nor the category to which manuscripts are assigned necessarily reflects their importance to the behavioral health field. Manuscripts must be submitted online via the JBHS&R's Editorial Manager Website, http://www.editorialmanager.com/jbhs/default.aspx. Please visit this site for details on how to register with Editorial Manager, upload, and electronically submit manuscripts.

Manuscript Preparation

Manuscripts must be uploaded to Editorial Manager as a Microsoft Word document. Do not use the graphics option for tables or the sequential (embedded) footnote option. Manuscripts must be double-spaced (including abstracts, footnotes, block quotations, references, and tables), with one-inch margins. Only Times New Roman or Arial font should be used. The manuscript pages should be numbered consecutively starting with the first page of the text (not abstract). The use of first person (i.e., I, we, our) in the manuscript narrative should not be used. In addition, authors should use "person/people first" language (e.g., "individuals with mental illness" rather than "the mentally ill").

Manuscript Contents

Manuscript submissions should contain four separate Microsoft Word document files: 1) a title page with author information; 2) the manuscript narrative including: a second title page WITHOUT author information, abstract, and references list; 3) tables (if applicable); and 4) figures (if applicable). Table and figure document files should be uploaded and appear at the end of the manuscript narrative. Each manuscript submission must include the following items:

Title Page (WITH Author Information)

Include title, key words for indexing, name(s) of author(s), academic degree(s), name and address of organization where the work was done, and any acknowledgments, credits, or disclaimers. Manuscripts should include a running head on the title page of the manuscript. All author information should be included ONLY in this separate Title Page.

Abstract

All manuscripts, except Letters to the Editor, require an Abstract of no more than 150 words. No references should be cited in the abstract. The Abstract should not include any subheadings. Please double-space the Abstract and place it on a separate page following the title page WITHOUT author information.

Conflict of Interest Statement

Authors are required to include a Conflict of Interest Statement after the Implications section and before the References.

Implications for Behavioral Health

The JBHS&R is committed to publishing manuscripts in applied behavioral health policy and services delivery as well as publishing articles based upon empirical research. All manuscripts must contain a section heading (with appropriate narrative) as the last major section of the manuscript entitled “Implications for Behavioral Health”.

Notes (as needed)

These should be grouped together in a separate, double-spaced section after the text and before the References. In the text, notes should appear as superscript, lower-case letters. (E.g., This has caused a number of significant controversies.)

Illustrations

Figures may be created using electronic software (i.e., Adobe Illustrator, Corel Draw, and Photoshop). Use computer-generated lettering. Do not use screenshots, color, grayscale, shading, or fine lines. Cite each figure in the text in consecutive order. If a figure has been previously published, in part or in total, acknowledge the original source and submit written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce or adapt the material. Supply a caption for each figure, typed double-spaced. Captions should include the figure number, (centered and in bold) on the first line and the figure title (centered) on the second line, followed by explanatory statements, notes, keys or sources and permissions lines. Include all Figures in one MS Word file, separate from the article text.

Tables

Tables should be numbered consecutively and should each include a brief title. The table number should appear centered and in bold on the first line, while the table title should appear on the next line, also centered. Include explanatory footnotes for all nonstandard abbreviations. Cite each table in the text in consecutive order. They should be self-explanatory and not duplicate the text. If you use data from another published or unpublished source, obtain permission and acknowledge fully. Include all Tables in one MS Word file, separate from the article text.

Important tips:
1) Do not save manuscript files using identifying information (i.e., author last name).
2) Do not include any author information, the use of University letterhead, acknowledgements to colleagues, reference to your university/institutional affiliation, or any other identifying information in the original manuscript or revisions.
Formatting

Major headings (e.g., Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Discussion, and Implications for Behavioral Health) should be centered with bold face type (not italicized) and should not be numbered. Second line headings are captured aligned to the left with bold face type and only the first letter of the first word set to uppercase. Third line headings are captured in italics with run-in text and aligned to the left with only the first letter of the first word set to uppercase.

References

References must be cited in text and styled in the reference list according to the American Medical Association Manual of Style, Tenth Edition, 2007. The JBHS&R deviates from this style of referencing by completely spelling out the entire title of journal publications listed in the References section. When references are cited, the citation number should appear superscripted in the body of the text and should follow all punctuation marks (e.g., Persons in substance abuse treatment.11,13) Page numbers should appear with the citation, in parentheses, following a specific quote (e.g., “Persons in substance abuse treatment.”11(p.213)). References should not be created using MS Word’s automatic footnote/endnote feature. References must be included on a separate page at the end of the article and should be double-spaced.

Only material that has been published, accepted for publication, or presented at a major conference may be listed in the References. References should be numbered as they appear in the text. In the references list, name all authors and editors through the third; if there are more than three authors or editors, list the first three followed by et al. Journal titles, book titles, titles of presentations, and titles of technical reports should appear in italics.

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Chapters in Books


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JBHS&R Referencing Style Tutorial

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Indexes

The contents of the Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research (ISSN 1094-3412) are indexed or abstracted in Science Citation Index Expanded (SciSearch), Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition, Social Science Citation Index, Journal Citation Reports/Social Sciences Edition, PubMed/Medline, SCOPUS, PsycINFO, EMBASE, Google Scholar, EBSCO, CSA, ProQuest, Academic OneFile, Academic Search, Corporate ResourceNet, Criminal Justice Abstracts, CSA Environmental Sciences, Current Contents / Social & Behavioral Sciences, Current Contents/Clinical Medicine, EMCare, Expanded Academic, Health Reference Center Academic, OCLC, PSYCLINE, SCImago, and Summon by ProQuest.

JBHS&R is a ranked journal in journal citation reports. The JBHS&R Impact Factor can be viewed at http://link.springer.com/journal/11414.
The Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research
Official Publication of the National Council for Behavioral Health
Editor-in-Chief: Levin, B.L.
ISSN: 1094-3412 (print version)
ISSN: 1556-3308 (electronic version)
Journal no. 11414