

**Special Edition and Thematic Series: Showcasing Achievements and Challenges in the  
Equitable Realization of the Right to Health in Latin America**

**International Journal for Equity in Health (IJEqH)**

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The International Journal for Equity in Health is seeking contributions for an article collection that showcases achievements and challenges in the equitable realization of the right to health across Latin America. This Special Edition will additionally launch a Thematic Series, including a rolling call for papers that will serve as a platform for researchers and practitioners who want to explore inequalities in the realization of the right to health, worldwide. The Thematic Series will run from 2018 until 2022.

The right to health and universal health coverage are inseparable goals [1,2]. With a renewed commitment to Universal Health Coverage, the explicit constitutional Right to Health in much of the region and the greatest inequality among regions of the world, documenting achievements and challenges to the equitable realization of the right to health has become ever more pertinent for Latin America [3]. A region seldom discussed in the literature, and whose achievements and challenges are rarely showcased, either at the sub-national, national or regional levels. This special edition thus seeks to present and promote a deeper and more nuanced understanding of the path towards the realization of the right to health in Latin American countries by presenting a variety of perspectives related to equity in the realization of the right to health in the region.

We look forward to theoretical, review, and empirical submissions that engage with current achievements and challenges in the realization of the right to health in Latin America. Specific areas of interest might include **but are not limited** to:

- Priority setting as a tool for the equitable realization of the right to health.
- Judicialization of health care: a friend or foe for the equitable realization of the right to health.
- Judicial versus medical ethical perspectives and their role in the equitable realization of the right to health.

- Transparency and accountability models for the equitable realization of the right to health.
- Availability or lack thereof of evidence/data necessary for the assessment of processes or outcomes of policies for the equitable realization of the right to health.
- Service delivery models for the equitable realization of the right to health.
- Health system policy changes such as the price negotiation of medicine and medical technology, as a tool for the equitable realization of the right to health.

The International Journal for Equity in Health and the guest editors would like to promote the inclusion of early career researchers, practitioners, and will be able to provide additional support to what is usually given during peer-review within BMC journals. Because of this, a two-round process will take place.

**Please submit long structured abstracts of 500 words as a WORD DOCUMENT<sup>1</sup> to [right2healthspecialissue@gmail.com](mailto:right2healthspecialissue@gmail.com)** (must include an introduction/background, aim, methods<sup>2</sup>, findings and conclusion) **by Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. Following evaluation, selected authors will be invited to submit full papers using IJEQH's online submission system by April 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 for full peer review. Editorial support will be provided for selected authors prior to the March submission.

Priority will be given to research teams based in and conducting research in low- and middle-income countries, or low-income areas/populations in other settings. The special issue will be published in April 2019. Queries may be directed to any of the guest editors via the [right2healthspecialissue@gmail.com](mailto:right2healthspecialissue@gmail.com) email. IJEQH is an open access journal and charges a publication fee, however a waiver is offered to papers submitted by LMIC-based authors from selected countries. Please check if you are eligible for an automatic waiver at <https://www.biomedcentral.com/authors/oawaiverfund/>

1. Cubillos, L. *et al.* (2012) 'Universal health coverage and litigation in Latin America', *Journal of Health Organization and Management*, 26(3), pp. 390–406. doi: 10.1108/14777261211239034.
2. Rumbold, B. *et al.* (2017) 'Universal health coverage, priority setting, and the human right to health', *Lancet (London, England)*, 390(10095), pp. 712–714. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(17)30931-5.
3. Heredia, N. *et al.* (2015) 'The right to health: what model for Latin America?', *Lancet (London, England)*, 385(9975), pp. e34-37. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(14)61493-8.

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<sup>1</sup> Although accepted papers will be published in English, and we encourage the submission of abstracts in English, abstracts written in Spanish are also welcome.

<sup>2</sup> Methodology can be quantitative, qualitative, document review, judicial sentence review, mixed methodology or any necessary to assess the research question.