

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue on Health Inequalities

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Inequality increasingly exists in health care for disadvantaged populations, such as racial and ethnic minorities, homeless veterans, rural residents, women, and working-class families. It has been estimated that fewer than 10 percent of children of family heads employed in managerial or professional occupations are uninsured, whereas 26.7 percent of children of family heads in construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations are uninsured. In addition, particular health disparities (for example, HIV infection) among racial and ethnic minority communities have been declared a pandemic. These facts alone have motivated health professions to consider health inequality a major priority. Hence, in line with social work's historical context and mission, it is imperative for social work to play a major leadership role in disseminating knowledge to improve social work practice and effect change for health equality.

To this end, the editorial board of *Health & Social Work* is soliciting papers for a special issue that will focus on health inequality and the complex systems, limited resources, and social constructs, such as poverty, minority status, immigrant status, language problems, unemployment, and social stratification that perpetuate health inequality.

Possible topics include but are not limited to the following:

- health disparities experienced by racial and ethnic minorities
- the role of social work in advocating for health equality through policy and practice
- issues related to health inequality as a barrier to social work practice
- the effects of health inequality on mental health services for special populations
- poverty, health disparities, and health inequality
- children, the uninsured and the underinsured, and health disparities
- social determinants of health, particularly the effects of inequality on health status

The editors encourage the submission of full-length articles, *Practice Forums*, *Viewpoints*, and *Letters to the Editor*. Please send manuscripts no later than December 1, 2009, to the following:

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