

Dear Dr. Ilow,

Thank you very much for agreeing to provide advice for BMC Public Health as an Associate Editor. Please find attached a document that will help you to get started and prepare you for handling manuscripts. We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with our editorial policies and the scope of the journal. The document also gives hints as to what we would like you to look out for at different stages of the peer review process.

We will be in touch as appropriate to ask you to handle promptly up to 2 submissions per month. Please note that eventually you may be handling several manuscripts concurrently that are at different stages of the review process. In the meantime I would like to encourage you to register with our site (if you have not already done so) and familiarize yourself with the journal. You will also receive our Editorial Board Newsletter, a quarterly publication that aims to keep you in touch with BioMed Central's activities as a publisher.

We believe that, with your help, we will be able to further improve the standing of BMC Public Health in its field. It is clear that this journal has become an important venue for scientific studies investigating all aspects of Public Health research. BMC Public Health has an impact factor of 2.08.

Our online editorial tools will assist you by providing information in an improved format and by giving more transparency as to the status of your manuscripts. We will send an email to you each time your input is required on a manuscript. The message will provide you with the specific information you need and will direct you to the relevant place in the tools to carry out the task.

We have attached guidelines on the use of these online tools and we will also be available for any questions at associate.editors@biomedcentral.com.

I would also like to take the opportunity to introduce some of your regular contacts at BioMed Central:

Ross Hopkins is responsible for the BMC Public Health Editorial Office and he takes care of the smooth communication between the Editorial Office and Authors, Associate Editors, Reviewers, and Section Editors.

I am the In-house Senior Executive Editor of BMC Public Health and will be happy to discuss editorial questions with you, for example regarding the journal's scope and our editorial policies.

BMC Public Health continues to be overseen by the Medical Editor of the BMC series, Jigisha Patel.

I look forward to working with you and continuing to improve our procedures. As always, please feel free to contact me with any queries or suggestions you may have.

With many thanks,

Natalie Pafitis
Senior Executive Editor , BMC Public Health
BioMed Central
Floor 6, 236 Gray's Inn Road
London, WC1X 8HL

Journal homepage: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpublichealth>