

Sexually Transmitted Infection Risk among Racial/Ethnic Minority Populations: Methodological Innovations and Implications for Interventions

Call for papers to appear in the Special Issue of *Archives of Sexual Behavior* (Publications), Guest Editors: Derek T. Dangerfield II, and Lawrence M. Scheier.

Publication Timeline:

June 30th, 2024 (abstracts **must** be submitted to receive preliminary feedback for manuscripts to be considered for review)

August 31st, 2024 (potential authors notified whether their full paper would be considered for review)

December 1st, 2024 submission deadline

February 15th, 2025 first stage peer review decision letters

April 15th, 2025 revisions due

June 15th, 2025 final decisions

Prospective authors should submit a brief (1-2 page) pre-proposal (abstract) that details their contribution's emphasis on methodological innovation and intervention implications, including a brief outline of their research methodology and the implications of their work for intervention development.

Pre-proposals and any inquiries regarding topic or scope for the special issue can be sent to the Guest Editors: Derek T. Dangerfield II (ddanger2@gwu.edu) and Lawrence M. Scheier (scheier@larsri.org).

Manuscripts should be between 30-35 pages including tables, figures, and references. Notes and brief commentaries from the field are also welcomed. Submission references should comport with the Vancouver Style.

Call for Special Issue Submissions: *Sexually Transmitted Infection Risk among Racial/Ethnic Minority Populations: Methodological Innovations and Implications for Interventions*

Archives of Sexual Behavior (Editor-in-Chief, Anna Maria Geretti, PhD) invites manuscripts for a **Special Issue** examining novel methodological approaches that can be used to classify STI risk among racial/ethnic minority populations. The goals of the issue are to offer novel perspectives for intervention design and implementation. For example, studies have shown that Black gay and bisexual men are more likely than other racial/ethnic men to engage in HIV prevention behaviors such as condom use, HIV testing, and drug use before sex but are more likely than others to acquire HIV and other STIs. Studies also show that the increased access and use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention combined with destigmatization campaigns have changed perceptions of STI disease severity in some communities. Moreover, studies typically focus on HIV and STI risk separately and thus may offer narrow perspectives for sexual health promotion. Research that classifies and clarifies STI vulnerability for racial/ethnic minority populations is needed to improve healthcare engagement, patient-clinician communication, and uptake of effective prevention medications (e.g., PrEP, doxycycline).

The proposed *Special Issue* will include ~7-8 articles that advance the research on STI vulnerability for racial/ethnic minority communities to guide interventions with greater specificity and cultural responsiveness. Approaches using multivariate and person-centered methods such as latent class analysis or latent transition analysis are welcome. Binary indicators of behavioral risk factors such as condomless sex and multiple sexual partners or summative indices may not sufficiently explore STI vulnerability. Studies should use culturally relevant theoretical frameworks, psychometrically accurate measures, and posit clear mechanisms of vulnerability. Implications for behavioral, health communication, clinical, or multilevel interventions should be identified.

All submitted manuscripts will undergo the journal's regular peer review process. An initial screening will be conducted by the two Guest Editors, and manuscripts that dovetail with the central themes of the Special Issue will be sent out for blind peer review. An invitation to submit a full manuscript is not a guarantee of acceptance or publication.