



Editorial

The *Journal of Adolescent Health's* Editor-in-Chief's Annual Reflection: A Year of Endurance and Looking Toward the Future



Now in its third year, the COVID pandemic continues to impact people of all ages in all countries of the world. Fortunately, COVID vaccines have provided hope and allowed us to look toward the future with optimism. The *Journal of Adolescent Health (JAH)* remains committed to publishing high-quality science that can be used to improve the health and well-being of adolescents and young adults aged 10–25 years. Recently, that commitment has led us to focus our efforts on better understanding the impact of the pandemic on young people and strategies to increase COVID vaccination rates in this population. Many recent articles examine mental health and substance use among young people as they face challenges that have emerged with the COVID pandemic, and some document inspiring adolescent and young adult resilience [1–39]. Scientific articles as well as commentaries and editorials have contributed to the important ongoing discussions about COVID vaccination among this age group [40–51]. COVID-focused publications can be found on the *JAH* COVID-landing page (<https://www.jahonline.org/action/doSearch?text1=COVID-19&field1=AbstractTitleKeywordFilterField>).

To complement *JAH's* scientific articles, the *JAH* Intersection Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Sheila Quinn, selected the theme of COVID9TEEN for its annual contest, with the goal of contributing context to the COVID pandemic via personal narratives and photography [52]. Three winners were announced at the recent Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Annual Meeting. The winners are receiving prizes sponsored by our publisher (Elsevier) and were honored with the publication of their art in the June 2022 issue of *JAH*. First prize was awarded to Andile Dube from Zimbabwe for a stunning drawing titled “A Helping Hand” [53]. Second prize was shared between Ellie Rose Matoon for a personal narrative titled, “Thoughts From a Life in Limbo,” and Caryn Coyle for a poem describing poignant experiences of a nurse practitioner working within juvenile detention centers during the COVID pandemic titled, “Imprisoned: Quarantine in Juvenile Detention [54,55].” The work of contest semifinalists will also be published in *JAH* over the course of the upcoming year, along with accepted *JAH* Intersection submissions unrelated to the annual contest theme. The full *JAH* Intersection collection can be found at <https://www.jahonline.org/intersectioncollection>.

Our focus on COVID did not diminish work directed toward other priorities. We continued our efforts to increase the impact of *JAH* through innovation. We presented for the second year in a

row the *JAH* Distinguished Dozen [56]. With the goal of identifying and amplifying articles that made distinguished contributions to the field, *JAH* Associate Editors and I reviewed candidate articles nominated by peer reviewers, and we selected 12 articles as the 2021 Distinguished Dozen. These articles, as well as several thoughtful accompanying editorials, were highlighted in our April 2022 issue [56]. I encourage you to review and disseminate this important science to your colleagues and trainees.

Our ongoing collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) has allowed us to publish a growing number of infographics summarizing recent results from important national and international data sources [57–60]. *JAH's* sponsored supplements remain a key component of our mission, allowing us to explore specific topics in greater depth. The last 12 months have seen a particularly close examination of child, early, and forced marriages and unions, with discrete supplements published in both December 2021 and March 2022 [61,62]. A supplement published in July 2021, our second focused on the Global Early Adolescent Survey, gave us a similarly deep look at gender norms [63].

A fourth supplement remains an exciting work in progress. We are very pleased to be collaborating with UNICEF on a series of between 16 and 19 articles on its Measurement of Mental Health Among Adolescents at the Population Level initiative. In order to present data supporting the initiative on a timely basis, we are publishing the articles online first as they clear peer review. We published the first articles in the series in August 2021 [64]. You can find articles in the series on our website here: https://www.jahonline.org/meas_supplement. We are hoping to publish the complete series in a bound issue later this year.

As a new initiative, we have convened the *JAH* International Working Group (IWG), composed of volunteer members of the *JAH* Editorial Board. In 2021, Associate Editor Dr. David Ross and I led IWG meetings and robust discussions about the strategies for *JAH* to consider that might increase the publication of high-quality research on global adolescent and young adult health and better support international authors. Initial efforts have been dedicated to improving *JAH's* metrics in this domain, increasing collaboration with international members of our Editorial Board, and collecting resources for international colleagues. A summary of our *JAH* Global Author Resources can be found in our author guidelines on our website. Elsevier's Webshop offers a range of

author services—including language editing and translation—all designed to assist authors with publication and increase the impact of research: <https://webshop.elsevier.com/>. Researchers from low-income countries should be aware of Hinari (Research for Health), the WHO's program to provide public institutions in eligible countries with access to peer-reviewed journals and books: <https://portal.research4life.org/>. Of note, many of the IWG's discussions resonated with broader themes highlighting the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion. In 2022, Associate Editor Dr. Cherrie Boyer will colead efforts to identify strategies to increase *JAH*'s support for diversity, equity, inclusion, and antiracism.

We still find ourselves carefully navigating a complex and evolving landscape with regard to open access publishing [65]. In January 2021, *JAH* was designated a “transformative” journal, indicating that our current subscription/hybrid access model journal fulfills the criteria set out by cOAlition S, the open access advocacy organization [66]. Our status as a transformative journal tells authors who are supported by cOAlition S funders that we are an approved venue for their open access work. This arrangement allows us to participate in the open access publishing framework while still protecting other authors' ability to publish their work in *JAH* under the traditional publishing model at no cost. In 2022, *JAH* again met the criteria to be designated a transformative journal.

The production of *JAH* takes an extraordinary amount of teamwork, and it has been gratifying to work with a talented team who has demonstrated grace during a year that required more pandemic-related endurance than anyone had originally predicted. In 2021, we received nearly 2,000 manuscript submissions. Though a slight reduction from our record COVID surge high in 2020, our 2021 submissions were still 338 higher than in 2019. This journal continues to thrive because of the hard work and commitment of our Associate Editors Cherrie B. Boyer, Ph.D., Carolyn T. Halpern, Ph.D., Debra K. Katzman, M.D., and David A. Ross, BMBCh, Ph.D.; Supplements Editor Charles E Irwin Jr., M.D.; *JAH* Intersection Editor Sheila Quinn, D.O.; Managing Editor Tor Berg; Editorial Analyst Teresa Dal Santo, Ph.D.; *JAH*'s Editorial Board; Elsevier's Publishing Team led by Mr. Luke Verrillo; contributing authors; and the many professionals who very generously contributed their time providing peer review [67]. Together we have ensured that *JAH* is fulfilling its commitment to publishing high-quality science that can be used to improve the health and well-being of all adolescents and young adults.

Carol A. Ford, M.D.

Editor-In-Chief

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

References

- [1] Engel de Abreu PMJ, Neumann S, Wealer C, et al. Subjective well-being of adolescents in Luxembourg, Germany, and Brazil during the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:211–8.
- [2] Tetreault E, Teferra AA, Keller-Hamilton B, et al. Perceived Changes in Mood and Anxiety among Male Youth during the COVID-19 pandemic: Findings from a Mixed-Methods Study. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:227–33.
- [3] Harden SR, Runkle JD, Weiser J, et al. Spatial Clustering of adolescent Bereavement in the United States during the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:140–3.
- [4] Hu Y, Qian Y. COVID-19 and adolescent mental health in the United Kingdom. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:26–32.
- [5] Lin JA, Hartman-Munick SM, Kells MR, et al. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the number of adolescents/young adults Seeking Eating Disorder-related Care. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:660–3.
- [6] Richter L, Vuolo L. The importance of Restricting Youth access to Marijuana in the age of Legalization: Lessons Learned from Tobacco Control efforts and COVID-19 Restrictions. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:538–9.
- [7] Fruehwirth JC, Gorman BL, Perreira KM. The Effect of Social and Stress-related Factors on Alcohol Use among College Students during the Covid-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:557–65.
- [8] Bélanger RE, Patte KA, Leatherdale ST, et al. An impact Analysis of the early Months of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health in a Prospective Cohort of Canadian adolescents. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:917–24.
- [9] Chadi N, Spinoso-Di Piano C, Osmanliu E, et al. Mental health-related Emergency Department Visits in adolescents before and during the COVID-19 pandemic: A Multicentric Retrospective Study. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:847–50.
- [10] Kuhlman KR, Straka K, Mousavi Z, et al. Predictors of adolescent resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic: Cognitive Reappraisal and Humor. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:729–36.
- [11] Meyers N, Friedman S, Anderson-Burnett SA. The adolescent mental health Crisis in the context of COVID-19: A Pediatric Resident Perspective. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:672–4.
- [12] Krueger EA, Barrington-Trimis JL, Unger JB, Leventhal AM. Sexual and gender Minority young adult Coping Disparities during the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:746–53.
- [13] Li N, Li S, Fan L. Risk Factors of Psychological Disorders after the COVID-19 Outbreak: The Mediating Role of Social support and Emotional Intelligence. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:696–704.
- [14] Collier Guillaume S, Stephens JE, Nwafor EE, et al. High Parental Education Protects against Changes in adolescent stress and Mood early in the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:549–56.
- [15] Peplak J, Klemfuss JZ, Yates TM. Parent-adolescent Conversations about COVID-19 Influence adolescents'Empathic Concern and Adherence to health protective Behaviors. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:925–32.
- [16] van der Laan SEI, Finkenauer C, Lenters VC, et al. Gender-specific Changes in Life Satisfaction after the COVID-19-related Lockdown in Dutch adolescents: A Longitudinal Study. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:737–45.
- [17] Karp C, Moreau C, Sheehy G, et al. Youth Relationships in the Era of COVID-19: A Mixed-Methods Study among adolescent Girls and young Women in Kenya. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:754–61.
- [18] Pelham WE III, Tapert SF, Gonzalez MR, et al. Early adolescent substance Use before and during the COVID-19 pandemic: A Longitudinal Survey in the ABCDStudy Cohort. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:390–7.
- [19] Pigeaud L, de Veld L, van Hoof J, van der Lely N. Acute Alcohol Intoxication in Dutch adolescents before, during, and after the first COVID-19 Lockdown. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:905–9.
- [20] Rau LM, Grothus S, Sommer A, et al. Chronic Pain in Schoolchildren and its Association with Psychological Wellbeing before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:721–8.
- [21] Wang MT, Henry DA, Del Toro J, et al. COVID-19 Employment status, Dyadic Family Relationships, and child Psychological well-being. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:705–12.
- [22] Katzman DK. The COVID-19 pandemic and Eating Disorders: A Wake-Up Call for the future of Eating Disorders among adolescents and young adults. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:535–7.
- [23] Diaz A, Nucci-Sack A, Colon R, et al. Impact of COVID-19 Mitigation Measures on Inner-City Female Youth in New York City. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:220–7.
- [24] Gray TF, Zanville N, Cohen B, et al. Finding new Ground—Fostering Post-Traumatic Growth in Children and adolescents after Parental Death from COVID-19. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:10–1.
- [25] Hertz MF, Kilmer G, Verlenden J, et al. Adolescent mental health, Connectedness, and Mode of School Instruction during COVID-19. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:57–63.
- [26] Toulany A, Kurdyak P, Guttman A, et al. Acute Care Visits for Eating Disorders among Children and adolescents after the Onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:42–7.
- [27] Shek DTL. COVID-19 pandemic and Developmental Outcomes in adolescents and young adults: In Search of the missing Links. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:683–4.
- [28] Paulsen M, Zychlinsky Scharff A, de Cassan K, et al. Children and adolescents'Behavioral Patterns in Response to Escalating COVID-19 Restriction Reveal Sex and age Differences. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:378–86.
- [29] Exner-Cortens D, Schwartz KD, McMorris C, Makarenko E. Stress among Asian Youth during COVID-19: Moderation by Educational, Spiritual, and Cultural sources of Belonging. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:500–3.
- [30] Gopalan M, Linden-Carmichael A, Lanza S. College Students'Sense of Belonging and mental health amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:228–33.

- [31] Patrick ME, Parks MJ, Fairlie AM, et al. Using substances to Cope with the COVID-19 pandemic: U.S. National data at age 19 Years. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:340–4.
- [32] Masonbrink AR, Middlebrooks L, Gooding HC, et al. Substance Use Disorder Visits among adolescents at Children's Hospitals during COVID-19. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:673–6.
- [33] Runkle JD, Yadav S, Michael K, et al. Crisis Response and Suicidal Patterns in U.S. Youth before and during COVID-19: A latent Class Analysis. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:48–56.
- [34] Kiss O, Alzueta E, Yuksel D, et al. The Pandemic's Toll on young adolescents: Prevention and Intervention Targets to Preserve their mental health. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:387–95.
- [35] Moore EWG, Petrie TA, Slavin LE. College Student-athletes' COVID-19 Worry and Psychological Distress Differed by gender, Race, and Exposure to COVID-19-related Events. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:559–66.
- [36] Chuang JH. Overlooked No more: Shining a Light on Asian American Pacific Islander Youth during the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for Visibility. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:351–3.
- [37] Qu Y, Chen BB, Yang B, Zhu Y. The Role of Empathy in Chinese adolescents' Preventive health Behavior during COVID-19. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:729–35.
- [38] Nakanishi M, Richards M, Stanyon D, et al. Adolescent Carers' Psychological Symptoms and mental well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic: Longitudinal Study using data from the UK Millennium Cohort Study. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:877–84.
- [39] Adams SH, Schaub JP, Nagata J, et al. Young adult Anxiety or Depressive Symptoms and mental health service Utilization during the COVID-19 pandemic. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:985–8.
- [40] Adams SH, Schaub JP, Nagata JM, et al. Young adult Perspectives on COVID-19 vaccinations. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:511–4.
- [41] Rogers AA, Cook RE, Button JA. Parent and peer norms are Unique Correlates of COVID-19 vaccine Intentions in a Diverse Sample of U.S. Adolescents. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:910–6.
- [42] Tyungu DL, O'Leary ST, Middleman AB. How can We best Use COVID-19 vaccines in adolescents? A Perspective from the United States. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:881–3.
- [43] Budhwani H, Maycock T, Murrell W, Simpson T. COVID-19 vaccine Sentiments among African American or Black adolescents in Rural Alabama. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:1041–3.
- [44] Hoffman BL, Wolynn T, Sidani JE. COVID-19 vaccines for adolescents: Leveraging the ABCs of Communication. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:884–5.
- [45] Tucker JS, D'Amico EJ, Pedersen ER, et al. COVID-19 vaccination rates and Attitudes among young adults with recent experiences of Homelessness. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:504–6.
- [46] Gewirtz-Meydan A, Mitchell K, Shlomo Y, et al. COVID-19 among Youth in Israel: Correlates of Decisions to vaccinate and Reasons for Refusal. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:396–402.
- [47] Zhong Y, Lee LY, Tambyah PA, et al. How can We best Use COVID-19 vaccines in adolescents? An international Perspective. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:878–80.
- [48] Ryan G, Askelson NM, Miotto MB, et al. Lessons Learned from Human Papillomavirus vaccination to increase Uptake of adolescent COVID-19 vaccination. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:359–60.
- [49] Di Giuseppe G, Pelullo CP, Volgare AS, et al. Parents'Willingness to vaccinate their Children with COVID-19 vaccine: Results of a Survey in Italy. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:550–8.
- [50] Delgado JR, Szilagyi PG, Peralta JB, et al. Influence of Perceived adolescent vaccination Desire on parent Decision for adolescent COVID-19 vaccination. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:567–70.
- [51] Mansfield LN, Balasuriya L, Brown A. COVID-19 vaccination in Children: Lessons Learned from Human Papillomavirus vaccination. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:525–7.
- [52] Quinn SM, Parva B. COVID9TEEN Virtues: Help, hope, and Holding Space. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:844–5.
- [53] Dube A. A Helping Hand. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:998.
- [54] Matoon ER. Thoughts from a Life in Limbo. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:999.
- [55] Coyle C. Imprisoned: Quarantine in juvenile detention. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:1000–1.
- [56] Ford CA, Boyer CB, Gordon CM, et al. The distinguished Dozen: 2020 *Journal of adolescent health* articles Making distinguished contributions to adolescent and young adult health. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;68:435–8.
- [57] Guthold R, Baltag V, Katwan E, et al. Trends in adolescent Population by Country income groups (1980–2060). *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:16.
- [58] Guthold R, Baltag V, Katwan E, et al. The Top global Causes of adolescent Mortality and Morbidity by age and Sex, 2019. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:540.
- [59] Akwara E, Guthold R, Chandra-Mouli V. Current Trends in child marriage. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:894–5.
- [60] Sardinha L, García-Moreno C, Guthold R. Global Estimated Prevalence of Physical and/or Sexual Intimate Partner Violence against Ever-Partnered Women, by Age, 2018. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:846–7.
- [61] Irwin CE Jr. A clear Message: Child marriage is a Significant global Problem requiring a collaborative, Contextual, and Evidence-Based Response. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:871–2.
- [62] Irwin CE Jr. The Opportunity to End child marriage throughout the world. *J Adolesc Health* 2022;70:356–8.
- [63] Irwin CE Jr. Findings from the global early adolescent Study. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:8–9.
- [64] Carvajal L, Requejo JH, Irwin CE. The Measurement of mental health Problems among adolescents and young adults throughout the world. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;69:361–2.
- [65] Brainard J. Open access takes Flight. *Science* 2021;371:16–20.
- [66] cOAlitionS. Transformative journals: Frequently Asked Questions. Available at: <https://www.coalition-s.org/transformative-journals-faq/>. Accessed April 13, 2022.
- [67] Thanks to our 2021 reviewers. *J Adolesc Health* 2021;68:1025–30.