



**Call for Manuscripts:**  
***Public Health Reports* Supplemental Issue  
on Innovative Approaches to COVID-19  
Case Investigation and Contact Tracing**  
Deadline: *July 15, 2021*



**We are soliciting manuscripts that focus on how health departments, tribal nations, and partners have:**

- implemented exposure notification (e.g., deidentified information shared between mobile devices);
- used digital tools and technology for case and contact management (e.g., mobile applications or daily text messaging for symptom tracking or monitoring);
- adapted processes for improving outreach to groups disproportionately affected by COVID-19,
- addressed interoperability challenges across different medical, laboratory, public health, and other systems;
- modified public health surveillance systems to accommodate the influx of SARS-CoV-2 test results;
- developed informatics solutions to support the delivery of case investigation or contact tracing;
- created innovative strategies for contact tracing in special settings (e.g., schools or workplaces);
- reprioritized workflow and redirected staff to accommodate the changing needs of the COVID-19 response;
- trained and incorporated new partners to augment COVID-19 case investigation and contact tracing; and
- evaluated the effectiveness of these innovative case investigation or contact tracing strategies.

Published since 1878, [Public Health Reports \(PHR\)](#) is the official journal of the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General and the U.S. Public Health Service.

PHR’s contributors and readers are on the front lines of public health in the United States.

This peer-reviewed journal of public health research and practice plans to publish a supplemental issue, “Innovative Approaches to COVID-19 Case Investigation and Contact Tracing,” in collaboration with the State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial (STLT) Support Task Force of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) COVID-19 Response.

**We are seeking the following types of manuscripts for this special issue:**

- Public health evaluation
- Original research
- Public health methodology
- Case study
- Commentary



Manuscripts must be submitted by **July 15, 2021** through [PHR's electronic submission system](#). Please be certain to mention in your cover letter that your manuscript is intended for this special issue. Submission to PHR is free, and authors pay no publication or open access fees. Additionally, all published articles will be freely available to the public online.

Submissions should follow PHR's [Instructions for Contributors](#), including being written in accordance with the [AMA Manual of Style \(11th ed.\)](#) and the [Federal Plain Language Guidelines](#). Submissions will be peer-reviewed with the same rigor as regular PHR articles.

***Important note: To ensure proper routing at submission, please select the drop-down option "Innovative Approaches to COVID-19 Case Investigation and Contact Tracing," and mention this in your cover letter.***

Each accepted and finalized proof will be published online on a rolling basis until the complete special PHR supplement publication date. PHR is widely distributed internationally and is indexed by MEDLINE/Index Medicus, Current Contents, EMBASE/Excerpta Medica, PAIS International, and LexisNexis. PHR is published through an agreement with the Association of Schools of Public Health. [Learn more about the journal](#).

*Questions regarding this call for manuscripts may be directed to the supplement's guest editor chairperson, **Maryam B. Haddad**, at [mhaddad@cdc.gov](mailto:mhaddad@cdc.gov). The other guest editors are Sue Feldman (University of Alabama at Birmingham), Jody McLean (CDC), Erin Sizemore (CDC), and Melanie Taylor (CDC).*

*Questions about PHR should be addressed to the PHR managing editor, **Dr. Andrey Kuzmichev**, at [Andrey.Kuzmichev@hhs.gov](mailto:Andrey.Kuzmichev@hhs.gov).*