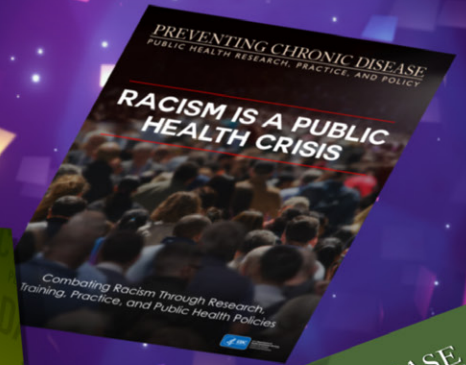


# PREVENTING CHRONIC DISEASE

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH, PRACTICE, AND POLICY



**PREVENTING CHRONIC DISEASE**  
PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH, PRACTICE, AND POLICY

Chronic Disease Prevention  
Mixed Evaluation Methods  
Evaluators **Health Equity**  
Needs Assessment Program Planners

**IMPLEMENTATION EVALUATION**

Understanding Context  
Infrastructure  
Collaborations  
Sustainability Factors  
Organizational processes  
System Changes

**Behavior**  
Health Policies  
Leadership  
Health Disparities  
Health Advocacy  
Capacity Building  
Organizational Capacity  
Health Disparities  
Factors Affecting Implementation  
Evaluation Planning  
Real World Settings

Implementation Evaluation: Assessing Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Impact of Public Health Programs



# 2023 Year in Review



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



# A WORD FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF

*Preventing Chronic Disease* (PCD) is pleased to release its 2023 Year in Review. This annual report provides the journal's readership with updates on the journal's impact factor, publication content, and contributions of its volunteer groups. The journal's commitment to rigorously screening and publishing relevant cutting-edge content continues to generate many successes. Over the past 5 years, the journal's impact factor has continued to increase. In 2023 PCD received the highest impact factor increase in its 19-year history. The journal's impact factor increased from 2.803 in 2020 to 4.354 in 2021 and 5.5 in 2022. In 2022 PCD was ranked 3rd of 33 open-access US public health journals by *Scientific Journal Ranking* (SJR); 21st of 180 journals in SSCI Edition: Public Health, Environmental, and Occupational Health, Journal Citation Reports (JCR); and 59th of 608 journals worldwide in Public Health, Environmental, and Occupational Health by SJR.

PCD's authors include public health professionals working in a variety of settings: state and local health departments, community-based organizations, academic institutions, clinics, health agencies, and beyond. This diversity has contributed to the journal publishing peer-reviewed articles that explore from multiple perspectives the factors that shape health, including identifying interventions that improve population health and emerging health challenges that require further research and evaluation.

PCD relies on the contribution of experts working in multiple fields: medicine, public health, health care management, pharmacy, nursing, psychology, social work, geographic information systems, medical anthropology, statistics, health economics, and more. PCD's volunteer groups include a team of associate editors and an active editorial board and statistics review committee. Volunteers serving in these groups provide the journal with hours of research, evaluation, and practice expertise—allowing the journal to provide authors with timely feedback regardless of whether their papers are accepted for publication.

Late last year, PCD established a new volunteer group: the Student Scientific Writing and Review Training Committee. Committee members consist of students from the high school, undergraduate, master's, and doctoral and professional levels (eg, MD, PhD, EdD, DrPH, DSW, DNP). The purpose of this committee is to help build the next generation of public health researchers by 1) exposing students to the latest research and evaluation; 2) helping them develop their abilities to critique strengths and weaknesses of scientific research and evaluation; and 3) familiarizing them with a journal's review processes in selecting manuscripts for publication. All appointments to the committee are for 1 year, and appointees receive a certificate after successfully completing their appointment.

PCD had another successful year with its release of collections that resonated with readers and garnered attention in media and social media channels. PCD's collections (often referred to elsewhere as supplements) group published articles around specific topics and themes for rapid dissemination to the journal's readers.

PCD published 6 collections in 2023:

1. In June 2023, PCD released the collection, **“Combating Racism Through Research, Training, Practice, and Public Health Policies.”** This collection consists of 8 articles that 1) capture exposure to racial discrimination with morbidity among diverse populations; 2) details implementation of multicomponent antiracist initiatives enacted in schools of public health, schools of medicine, and other university-affiliated units; and 3) increases attention to underlying drivers of structural inequities in housing and other domains through which meaningful community engagement in health initiatives is achievable.
2. In July, PCD released the collection, **“Health Equity in Action: Research, Evaluation, Policy, and Practice”** featuring 11 articles that highlight the critical role that context, qualitative methods, and community-based participatory research play in efforts to achieve health equity.
3. In August, PCD was excited to release its first-ever collection on the topic of sleep: **“Sleep Deprivation, Sleep Disorders, and Chronic Disease,”** which features 8 articles discussing the interplay between sleep, mental health, and chronic disease, emphasizing the critical role that sleep plays in health outcomes and overall well-being.
4. State and local health departments are the backbone to the public health system in the United States. PCD released a collection in September that highlighted the roles of local and state health departments in helping to improve the nation’s health. Twenty-two articles were released in the collection, **“State and Local Health Departments: Research, Surveillance, and Evidence-Based Public Health Practices.”** This collection offers examples of the impressive work in public health surveillance, epidemiology, geographic information systems, chronic disease prevention, and partnership development being led by the state and local health department workforce. The collection is also dedicated to Peter Briss, MD, MPH, for his unwavering support of PCD. Dr Briss is Medical Director of CDC’s National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP) and Director of its Office of Medicine and Science (OMS).
5. The collection entitled **“Implementation Evaluation: Assessing Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Impact of Public Health Programs”** was released in early November, consisting of 10 articles showcasing peer-reviewed content that can be used by program planners, policy makers, evaluators, researchers, and other interested parties to refine evaluation methods; make health system improvements; strengthen collaborations and partnerships; build organizational infrastructure; measure return on investments; and enhance data collection approaches.
6. PCD’s final collection of the year, also released in November, is the **“PCD 2023 Student Paper Contest,”** which features 9 articles addressing a range of topics, including views about COVID-19 racial disparities in morbidity and mortality rates among residents; effects of shared decision-making on emergency department use among people with high blood pressure; the contribution of disparities in physical activity to inequitable health-related quality of life among Black people with knee osteoarthritis; and dynamic patterns and modeling of COVID-19 early transmission (7).

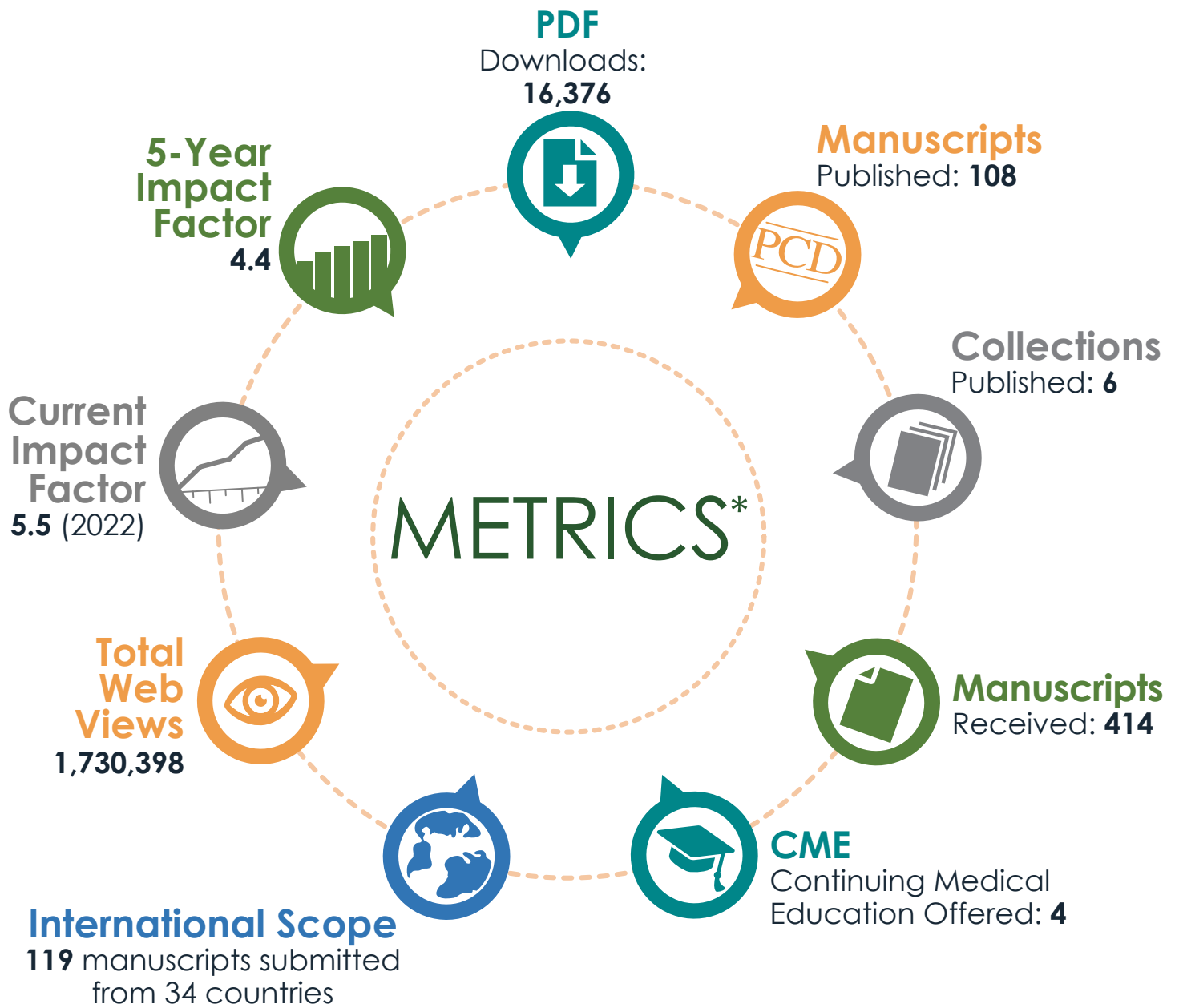
There were 2 winners this year, one in the master's category and one in the doctoral category. PCD congratulates Camille Kroll in the master's degree category for her paper, "'An Exploratory Qualitative Analysis of Explanations for COVID-19-Related Racial Disparities Among St. Louis Residents: 'I Don't Really Pay Attention to the Racial Stuff Very Much;'" and R. Aver Yakubu in the doctoral degree category for the paper, "Shared Decision-Making and Emergency Department Use Among People With High Blood Pressure." The paper led by Camille Kroll is the first qualitative research paper selected as a winner in any category. Congratulations to both of this year's winners!

It is important to end this review in the same way it began, by acknowledging and thanking journal supporters. We thank the journal's editorial board, associate editors, Statistics Review Committee members, Student Scientific Writing and Review Training Committee, PCD staff, PCD subscribers, and NCCDPHP senior leadership for their steadfast support of the journal. 2024 marks PCD's 20th year anniversary. Throughout the year, the journal plans to celebrate the many milestones and successes it has achieved over its 20 years of existence. We look forward to keeping you informed on these future celebratory events.

Leonard Jack, Jr, PhD, MSc







\*These metrics reflect numbers reported between January 1, 2023 and November 30, 2023.

# SCOPE AND FOCUS

PCD's versatile electronic publication platform and relevant, rigorous research continue to set it apart from other journals in the public health arena. With each weekly release of articles, PCD continues its mission to promote dialogue among researchers, practitioners, and policy makers worldwide on the integration and application of research findings and practical experience to improve population health. PCD released 4 Calls for Papers in 2023. The following major topic areas are of great interest to the journal:

## 1. Comorbidity Causes, Health Implications, and Multisystem Approaches to Treatment and Care

*Preventing Chronic Disease* (PCD) welcomes submissions for its upcoming collection, "Comorbidity Causes, Health Implications, and Multisystem Approaches to Treatment and Care." Chronic conditions are the leading cause of death, disability, and health care costs in the United States and are highly prevalent, with 6 in 10 adults having one disease and 4 in 10 having 2 or more (comorbidity or multimorbidity). Comorbidities, also called concurrent conditions, coexisting conditions, or concomitant conditions, are distinct health disorders that are present at the same time; they may exist together for many reasons, including shared causes and risk factors. Comorbidities can increase individual risk of complications or developing a new health condition altogether. Common comorbidities include obesity, COVID-19, high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, high blood lipid levels, arthritis, sleep apnea, depression, dementia, anxiety disorders, osteoarthritis, lung disease, and periodontal disease.

For this collection, PCD encourages the submission of manuscripts covering diverse topics using various article types. Please refer to the Types of Articles page on the journal's website for specifications for each article type. PCD is seeking submissions on topics including but not limited to the following:

- Frameworks that guide data modernization changes and position data systems to improve reliability, serviceability, and trustworthiness
- Methodologies used to monitor, evaluate, and report effectiveness of data management systems
- Scientific documentation that tracks progress of continuous improvements and provides accountability
- Identification of key outputs and outcomes (ie, specific metrics) to track and monitor from inception that provide insights into what is working and/or what needs modification
- Strategies to maintain higher quality, more accessible, and more complete health data collection to ensure data is representative of all people
- Improving equity-centered data systems to collect data on social factors that impact health
- Identification of privacy-enhancing technologies that increase public confidence in data governance and reporting
- Protecting privacy-related policies governing the release of public health data
- Strategies to improve timeliness, completeness, and quality of critical data for public health responses
- The application of data modernization on public health efforts to improve chronic disease prevention and control

Learn more about this [Call for Papers](#).

## 2. Advancing Chronic Disease Data Modernization Enhancements to Meet Current and Future Public Health Challenges

*Preventing Chronic Disease* (PCD) welcomes submissions for its upcoming collection, "Advancing Chronic Disease Data Modernization Enhancements to Meet Current and Future Public Health Challenges." The nation's health data systems are often antiquated, resulting in a myriad of negative effects on chronic disease prevention and health promotion efforts. In addition, antiquated data management systems often become difficult to support, maintain, scale, or integrate into new platforms. Enhancing the nation's data systems will require making important changes to ensure skilled individuals are in place,

new operational processes are adopted, and appropriate policies are established to facilitate monitoring and evaluation of data modernization action plans. This collection will feature peer-reviewed papers showcasing efforts under way by federal, state, tribal, local, and territorial public health agencies to collect, use, and share data. PCD is interested in publishing papers describing and highlighting data management infrastructure transformations that support response-ready systems capable of meeting current and future health challenges.

For this collection, PCD encourages the submission of manuscripts covering diverse topics using various PCD article types. Please refer to the [Types of Articles](#) page on PCD's website for specifications of each article type. Examples of topics of interest include but are not limited to the following

- Frameworks that guide data modernization changes and position data systems to improve reliability, serviceability, and trustworthiness
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- The application of data modernization on public health efforts to improve chronic disease prevention and control

Learn more about this [Call for Papers](#).

### 3. Public Health Nurse-Led Research, Practice, and Education in Disease Prevention and Control

*Preventing Chronic Disease* (PCD) welcomes submissions for its upcoming collection, "**Public Health Nurse-Led Research, Practice, and Education in Disease Prevention and Control.**" The American Public Health Association defines public health nursing as "the practice of promoting and protecting the health of populations using knowledge from nursing, social, and public health sciences." The public health nurse's scope of practice includes policy reform, environmental and system-level changes, and health promotion. Nurses serve in various capacities to help improve population health, including but not limited to their roles as clinicians, educators, researchers, managers, leaders, and policy makers.

Public health nurses work and lead in diverse settings to identify, develop, deliver, and evaluate evidence-based approaches to improve population health for all. PCD is interested in learning about current public health nursing efforts to develop, implement, and evaluate the following: population-based interventions to prevent chronic diseases and control disease effects on quality of life, morbidity, and mortality; interventions that reduce the disproportionate incidence of chronic diseases among at-risk populations; and public health law and health-policy-driven interventions. In addition, PCD is interested in models for education and professional development of the current and future public and population health nursing workforce.

Possible topic areas include but are not limited to the following:

- Emerging health care models that examine the role, utility, and effectiveness of public health nursing as an essential component of primary care and public health
- Training and education of nurses around concepts for public health nursing practice such

as clinical prevention, population health, systems thinking, healthcare policy development and implementation, finance, regulatory environments, interprofessional collaboration, and root causes of health inequities, including structural racism, sexism, poverty, and other nonmedical determinants of health

- Public health interventions delivered in community, health care, school, workplace, home, homeless shelters, and other settings to address health promotion, disease prevention, or disease management, including healthy eating, active living, etc
- Nursing and public health interventions to address chronic disease prevention and chronic illness across the life stage from pregnancy to older adulthood
- Addressing health disparities in chronic disease through community-engaged approaches and multidisciplinary collaboration with other health professions, community residents and organizations, and academic partners
- Approaches to planning and implementing community health interventions, care, services, and programs in various settings
- Developing, implementing, and evaluating health-policy-driven efforts at the local community level to identify system approaches to help eliminate health disparities
- Strategies, training, and organizational approaches to enhance workforce diversity in public health nursing

Learn more about this [Call for Papers](#).

#### 4. PCD 2024 Student Paper Contest

Preventing Chronic Disease (PCD) welcomes submissions from students at the high school, undergraduate, and graduate levels, recent postgraduates, and medical residents for PCD's annual **Student Paper Contest**. PCD is interested in publishing papers relevant to the prevention, screening, surveillance, and population-based intervention of chronic diseases, including but not limited to arthritis, asthma, cancer, depression, diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease, and COVID-19 and chronic conditions. The journal is also interested in research examining the role that social determinants exact on health, including the less explored determinant of racism.

PCD's 5 primary goals for this publication opportunity are to:

- Provide applicants with an opportunity to become familiar with a journal's manuscript submission requirements and peer-review process;
- Assist applicants to connect their knowledge and training on conducting quality research with a journal's publication expectations;
- Develop applicants' research and scientific writing skills to become producers of knowledge in addition to consumers of knowledge;
- Provide applicants with an opportunity to become first author on a peer-reviewed paper;
- Promote supportive, respectful, and mutually beneficial author–mentor relationships that result in strengthening applicants' ability to generate and submit future scholarly manuscripts.

#### Submission Requirements

PCD uses **PCD ScholarOne Manuscripts** for manuscript submission and tracking. Before submitting your manuscript, please read the instructions below in addition to the information provided on the PCD website under **Manuscript Requirements**.

#### Eligibility

- Student applicants must be currently enrolled in a high school, undergraduate, or graduate degree program. Postgraduate applicants must have received their graduate degree within the past 12 months and be participating in a medical residency, postdoctoral fellowship, or similar training program under the supervision of a mentor, advisor, or principal investigator.
- Applicants should meet the standard to serve as first author. The first author is the person who conducted or led the topic being presented and prepared the first draft of the manuscript. The first author must also ensure that all other authors meet the criteria for authorship.



- Applicants and coauthors are expected to demonstrate the highest ethical standards in submitting scholarly work to the journal for consideration. Applicants and coauthors should become familiar with the journal's Editorial Policy.
- Applicants (not mentors) must serve as the corresponding author for manuscripts submitted in conjunction with the student research collection. No exceptions will be allowed.
- Manuscripts must report on research done while in one of the qualifying student or postgraduate categories listed above.
- The research must have been completed within the last 12 months.
- Manuscripts must not be published previously or submitted elsewhere for publication.
- Manuscripts must represent original research submitted as Original Research or GIS Snapshots article types. Other article types will not be considered. For a detailed explanation, see information on Original Research and GIS Snapshots articles on PCD's Types of Articles page.
- Students and recent postgraduates must submit a cover letter indicating their interest in being considered for the Student Paper Collection and the name and contact information of their advisor. The cover letter must also indicate current level of academic enrollment: high school, undergraduate, or graduate degree, or applicable postgraduate residency, fellowship, or other training program. In addition, applicants should address all routinely required disclosures in the cover letter. Learn more about general cover letter requirements on PCD's How to Submit a Manuscript page.
- Applicants must provide a letter of recommendation from their advisor confirming either the student's enrollment in a degree program or the postgraduate candidate's residency or fellowship. The advisor must confirm that the research was conducted while in training under the advisor's supervision. The advisor's letter must confirm that the applicant conceptualized the analysis and was the primary author of the manuscript. The advisor's letter must also acknowledge that the advisor recognizes that no one other than the applicant can serve as corresponding author.
- Applicants should submit the cover letter and advisor letter when they submit the manuscript.

### **Deadline**

Manuscripts must be received electronically no later than **5:00 PM EST on Monday, March 25, 2024**.

### **Manuscript Review Process**

- Not all manuscripts submitted for consideration will undergo peer review. The Editor in Chief will screen and determine which manuscripts advance to peer review. The decision to advance papers to peer review will be made based on fit, quality, and available human capital to handle submission volume.
- Applicants and advisors must understand that the decision-making process to identify which manuscripts will advance through the various stages of review is a lengthy process. Therefore, applicants and advisors must have patience as the decision-making process moves through review stages.
- An applicant receiving comments and suggestions on a manuscript does not mean the manuscript will be accepted for publication.
- Applicants interested in getting a sense of where manuscripts are in the review process are encouraged to contact the journal. Such inquiries should come directly from the applicant serving as corresponding author.

Winners in each category will receive the following recognition:

- Acknowledgment in the Editor in Chief's collection editorial
- Special promotion on the journal's social media platforms
- Accompanying podcast to discuss the paper
- Potential selection as a peer reviewer to determine next year's winner

Learn more about this [\*\*Call for Papers\*\*](#).

# TOP 10 MOST POPULAR ARTICLES OF 2023\*

*Preventing Chronic Disease* (PCD) is excited to announce its most popular articles of 2023 as rated by Altmetric. Thousands of conversations about scholarly content happen online every day. Altmetric tracks a range of sources to capture, collate, and score this activity.

01. **Support for Policies to Prohibit the Sale of Menthol Cigarettes and All Tobacco Products Among Adults, 2021**
02. **Short Sleep Duration: Children’s Mental, Behavioral, and Developmental Disorders and Demographic, Neighborhood, and Family Context in a Nationally Representative Sample, 2016–2019**
03. **Linking Local-Level Chronic Disease and Social Vulnerability Measures to Inform Planning Efforts: A COPD Example**
04. **US Cigarette Smoking Disparities by Race and Ethnicity — Keep Going and Going!**
05. **Prevalence and Geographic Patterns of Self-Reported Short Sleep Duration Among US Adults, 2020**
06. **Changes in Sales of Tobacco and Nicotine Replacement Therapy Products Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic**
07. **Advancing Cardiovascular Disease Prevention, Management, and Control Through Field Epidemiology Training Programs in Noncommunicable Diseases in Low- and Middle-Income Countries**
08. **Direct Medical Costs Associated With Post–COVID-19 Conditions Among Privately Insured Children and Adults**
09. **Public Belief in the Maternal Health Benefits of Breastfeeding — United States, 2018 and 2021**
10. **Changes in Physical Inactivity Among US Adults Overall and by Sociodemographic Characteristics, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2020 Versus 2018**

\* These articles reflect views and conversations reported between January 1, 2023 and November 30, 2023

# About the Journal

PCD is a peer-reviewed public health journal sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and authored by experts worldwide. PCD was established in 2004 by the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion with a mission to promote dialogue among researchers, practitioners, and policy makers worldwide on the integration and application of research findings and practical experience to improve population health.

PCD's vision is to serve as an influential journal in the dissemination of proven and promising public health findings, innovations, and practices with editorial content respected for its integrity and relevance to chronic disease prevention.

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