

DHERN September 2023 Newsletter

DHERN Announcements

1. [Register here for the upcoming DHERN virtual conference](#), “Redefining Health for Disability Equity”: **September 21, 2023 11a-3p ET!**
 - a. Includes time for presentation from and Q&A with featured experts on disability equity including:
 - i. **Thomas Shakespeare** (The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine)
 - ii. **Teresa Nguyen** (Brandeis University)
 - iii. **Gloria Krahn** (Oregon State University)
 - iv. **Susan Haverkamp** (Ohio State University)
 - v. **Elizabeth Barnes** (University of Virginia)
 - b. CART and ASL interpretation will be provided.
 - c. Sponsors: Center for Aging and Policy Studies, Johns Hopkins University Disability Health Research Center

2. DHERN 2023 Paper Award Competition Announcement
 - a. We will provide two awards to papers related to disability health equity, broadly defined. The nominee must be an undergraduate student, graduate student, or a postdoctoral researcher at the time of paper acceptance or publication, and must be the first author on the paper (co-authorship is permitted with student or faculty co-author(s)). The paper must have been published or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal in 2022 or 2023.
 - b. Each awardee will receive \$500 and will present a summary of their paper at the DHERN meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 2:00-3:00pm ET.
 - c. One entry is permitted per nominee. Self-nominations will be accepted. The deadline for nominations is 5:00pm on Friday, December 1, 2023.
 - d. Email paper and nomination letter to sdlandes@sy.edu.

3. Share your recent publications, upcoming events, job opportunities with the DHERN community! To contribute to the August newsletter, please send the following details to us at ccerill1@jhu.edu by July 28th.
 - Name:
 - Email address for contact:
 - Twitter handle for contact and/or organization:
 - Details (for event or opportunity, include a brief description no more than 3 lines with dates and necessary links; for publication, include the full citation and an abstract):
 - Link for more information/publication:

Opportunities

- Understanding and Mitigating Health Disparities experienced by People with Disabilities caused by Ableism (R01 Clinical Trial Optional) The goal of this NOFO is to encourage research to understand the impact of ableism on health outcomes. Research on the

underlying mechanisms by which ableism adversely influences the health of persons with disabilities (PWD), as well as developing and/or testing interventions at a community or health systems level to mitigate adverse health effects of ableism are high priority.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-24-007.html>

- **CALL FOR PAPERS:** Drs. Lesley Tarasoff and Hilary Brown are Co-Guest Editors for a special collection for [Archives of Women's Mental Health](#) on Disability and Mental Health Across the Reproductive Life Course. [The call for papers can be found here.](#)
 - a. We are looking for original research, systematic reviews, and short communications investigating mental health outcomes and mental health care experiences among women with disabilities related to the menstrual cycle, fertility/conception and pregnancy, postpartum and parenting, and the menopausal transition. We will consider quantitative study designs on populations with physical, vision, hearing, and intellectual or developmental disabilities. We encourage the submission of interdisciplinary studies, studies that examine the intersections of ableism and other forms of oppression such as racism, and studies from all global contexts.
 - b. The submission deadline is November 30, 2023.

- **CALL FOR PAPERS:** [Special Issue on Autism and Aging: A Lifespan Approach](#) in [Autism in Adulthood](#). This special issue will address the dearth of published research on older Autistic adults by focusing on autism and aging. Authors are encouraged to explore Autistic experience in adulthood and later life from a variety of frameworks and approaches, including those that use a biopsychosocial perspective or build upon social or social relational models of disability, rights-based models, the neurodiversity paradigm, or models of social inclusion.
 - a. Submission deadline for this special issue is January 15, 2024, through the Autism in Adulthood online submission system. Visit the journal website to view more on information for authors including manuscript guidelines, information on available author services, and publication costs.

DHERN Member Publications

Disability and Health Journal Featured Article

- Caroline Gray, Jacqueline Egelfeld, Anita Vashi, [Access to and accessibility of care for rural Veterans with disabilities: A qualitative evaluation of VA healthcare experiences](#), Disability and Health Journal, 2023
 - We conducted 30 qualitative interviews with rural-dwelling Veterans who experience at least one of three types of disabilities: hearing loss, vision loss, and mobility loss. Participants reported experiencing access barriers in five main areas, including policies and operational processes at VA clinics; navigating VA campuses and clinics; limited transportation and parking options; communicating with healthcare personnel and occasional negative interactions; and challenges due to pandemic-related changes in policies and procedures. These findings suggest that Veterans with disabilities may experience a host of challenges and access barriers while navigating the VA Healthcare system. Given its focus on caring for Veterans with service-aggravated conditions and its commitment to equity and inclusion,

addressing access barriers among Veterans with disabilities should be a high priority for VA.