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## **Call for articles**

### **Special Issue**

### **Sex and Gender in Biomedical Research**

The incorporation of the gender perspective into medical research has given rise to a new cross sectional field of research that investigates the relationship between the biological fundamentals, the environment and gender and opens up new perspectives in various medical fields and related disciplines. Many anatomical, physiological and behavioural differences between the sexes are characteristic for different vertebrate species including humans. Both genetic and hormonal factors cause differences not only in the reproductive system, but also in the metabolism of most organs such as the heart, the nervous and the immune system. These physiological sexual dimorphisms, in interaction with sociocultural factors result in differential health risks, courses of disease and responses to therapies for both genders. Although personalised medicine postulates that diseases are as individual as the people who suffer from them, the inclusion of gender aspects in biomedical research is still in its infancy. Developing personalised health care in the true sense of its meaning based on gender-sensitive research is one of the most important challenges of the future.

We would like to invite colleagues from the fields of medicine and the biosciences to submit contributions to this special issue. We also welcome articles which deal with the biological perspective from the point of view of the social sciences, for example regarding transsexuality or ambiguous gender assignment, or papers that address other transdisciplinary or interdisciplinary gender issues.

Manuscripts should highlight the contributions made by current biomedical research to gender differences and the search for their causes. Articles dealing with the question of sex/gender differences in health and disease would be of special interest. We welcome both basic contributions on the state of the art concerning the integration of the gender perspective in biomedical research and on specific research on the constitution of and relation between gender and the biophysical organism.

#### **Possible issues that could be addressed include:**

- What is the importance of gender in mainstream medicine?
- Which approaches are best suited to understanding and explaining gender differences?
- Which research and differential findings are available in the various medical specialities regarding gender issues?
- Which interdisciplinary links are there to gender research in the social sciences?
- Which basic biological mechanisms determine sex--dependent disease incidence, progression and response to treatment?

## Articles can be

- **Original contributions** presenting the results of one's own research.
- **Position papers** presenting an overview of one's own scientific position based on a comprehensive research programme on gender in biomedical research.

Contributions must meet the scientific standards applied in biomedical research and should simultaneously be able to unequivocally present the importance of gender aspects in medicine to an interdisciplinary readership.

## Timetable

Please submit your one- to two-page abstract by **13 April 2014**. Non-German speakers are welcome to submit their abstracts and articles in English. The Editorial Department works with the online editing system OJS. We would therefore like to ask you to register as an author of the journal GENDER at [www.budrich-journals.de/index.php/gender](http://www.budrich-journals.de/index.php/gender) and to submit and upload your abstract there. Guidelines for using the OJS are available at: [www.gender-zeitschrift.de/index.php?id=manuskripte](http://www.gender-zeitschrift.de/index.php?id=manuskripte).

Once your abstract has been positively reviewed, you will be invited to submit your full article by **30 April 2014**. The deadline for your finished article (max. of 50,000 characters) is **19 October 2014**. Following submission, your article will be double-blind peer reviewed, after which the final selection of articles will be made. For that reason, information relating to the editing process will usually only be communicated in exceptional cases. The editors will then communicate directly with authors. In the event that the Editorial Department has a large number of positively reviewed articles, it reserves the right to make the final selection and, possibly, to publish articles in a later edition.

## About GENDER. Journal for Gender, Culture and Society

GENDER. Journal for Gender, Culture and Society was founded in 2009 as a journal on women and gender studies. It provides a forum for academic debate and discourse between academics and practitioners.

The journal covers a broad range of social and cultural topics, addressing both socio-political issues on equality and justice as well as issues regarding the staging and cultural interpretation of gender. The journal aims to cover a wide range of topics and academic disciplines in which women's, men's and gender issues are reflected. Given the journal's multi-disciplinary setting, we welcome analyses from, for instance, sociology, cultural studies, the natural sciences and other disciplines that correspond to the interdisciplinary nature of gender studies. Analyses of local, regional and global influences on gender relations are also of interest.

GENDER. Journal for Gender, Culture and Society is published in three issues a year, each with a thematic focus, and some 480 pages per annum. Contributions to the special issues and to the section for open contributions are double-blind peer reviewed. Contributions published in the section "From Research, Politics and Practitioners", conference proceedings and book reviews are not peer reviewed.

## Further information

For further information please contact the editors of this special issue on "Sex and Gender in Biomedical Research", Dr Andrea Kindler-Röhrborn (Guest Editor, Essen; [andrea.kindler@uk-essen.de](mailto:andrea.kindler@uk-essen.de)), Prof. Dr Sigrid Metz-Göckel (Dortmund; [sigrid.metz-goeckel@tu-dortmund.de](mailto:sigrid.metz-goeckel@tu-dortmund.de)) or the Editorial Department ([redaktion@gender-zeitschrift.de](mailto:redaktion@gender-zeitschrift.de)).

A style sheet for authors is available at: [www.gender-zeitschrift.de/index.php?id=manuskripte](http://www.gender-zeitschrift.de/index.php?id=manuskripte)

**We look forward to receiving your contribution.**