



Substance Use among Minoritized Populations in the COVID-19 Era

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleague,

Minoritized populations are groups that are stigmatized or marginalized based on their racial, ethnic, or indigenous identity; immigrant status; sexual or gender identity; religious affiliation; socioeconomic status; physical or mental health status; neurodiversity; or other characteristics. These groups often experience stressors that can increase their risk for involvement in health-compromising behaviors such as substance use. Substance use, in turn, can exacerbate health, educational, and socioeconomic disparities. In the era of COVID-19, minoritized populations have experienced additional stressors that could increase their risk for substance use and its adverse consequences even further. This issue will focus on substance use among minoritized populations before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic. It will document the experiences of diverse populations during this health crisis and the short-term and long-term effects on substance use disparities.

Keywords: adolescence; substance use; tobacco; alcohol; marijuana; cannabis; disparity; minority





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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