Call for Abstracts

Abstracts are currently being considered for inclusion in the following PLOS Special Collection under development:

**Topic:** Validation and application of innovative methods of dietary assessment and analysis

**Guest editors:** Sabri Bromage, Teresa T. Fung, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Walter C. Willett

**Target journals:** PLOS ONE and PLOS Medicine

**Scope:** Methods for assessing and analyzing human diets are often costly, laborious, and require special training. As a result, most countries do not regularly conduct diet surveys, only 36% of surveys are nationally-representative, and only 38% include pregnant and nursing women. Furthermore, less than half of countries have national food composition data, much of which are outdated. Poor diets are the leading cause of death globally, and a lack of quality data poses a challenge to evidence-based efforts for improving diets, particularly in low- and middle-income countries where research infrastructure is often limited and where 84% of diet-related deaths occur.

This collection will describe validation or application of novel methods, tools, and datasets for assessment and analysis of diet and food consumption. Articles reporting results of economical methods that may be used in or applied to limited-resource settings are encouraged.

Articles may describe:

1. Validation or application of innovative dietary assessment methods, instruments, technologies, or platforms, OR;

2. Validation or application of novel software or statistical methods for e.g. compilation or use of food composition data, analysis of diet quality or diet patterns, prediction of food or nutrient intake, or translation of dietary data to the formulation of empirical strategies or guidance for improving diet and nutrition, OR;

3. Validation or application of nonconventional datasets (e.g. household consumption and expenditure, food balance, commercial datasets, geospatial data, or agriculture and other food systems data) to analysis of diet, diet quality, and food security.

**How to submit an abstract:** Please send abstracts to: sbromage@mail.harvard.edu.

Guest editors will review your abstract to determine if it is appropriate for inclusion based on the scope of the collection, and will contact you with a decision. Once a satisfactory body of abstracts have been accepted, they will be sent to the journal for senior editorial approval, and authors will be invited to prepare manuscripts to be submitted for publication in the collection.

Papers submitted to the collection will be assessed on the usual standards of PLOS journals, and standard collection fees will apply: https://collections.plos.org/s/finances-for-special-collections.

**Methods papers:** For papers about novel diet methods, kindly direct your abstract to the following collection hosted by the Journal of Visualized Research (JoVE): https://www.jove.com/methods-collections/284/innovative-methods-of-dietary-assessment-and-analysis.

**For inquiries:** sbromage@mail.harvard.edu.