Community Eye Health Journal

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International Centre for Eye Health

LONDON SCHOOL of HYGIENE &TROPICAL MEDICINE

From the editor's desk

It is doubtful whether anything could have prepared the world for the impact of COVID-19. Measures to reduce the risk of transmission have not only disrupted our daily lives, but also the way eye care is delivered. The need for eye care has not gone away, however, nor has our resolve, as the *Community Eye Health Journal* team, to support the people responsible for delivering eye health worldwide. This special issue on COVID-19 is for you.

It has been a privilege to work with so many experienced authors, reviewers and editors during the past four months; I am deeply grateful for the many long hours you have put into this issue, often while juggling other work commitments and family responsibilities.

A big thank you also to our supporting organisations (see p. 3); without you, none of this would be possible! We are also grateful to CBM for an additional grant that has allowed us to produce and distribute additional COVID-19 content – making this a 40-page double issue.

The pandemic has changed the way we publish new articles. If you are a member of our mailing list (**www.cehjournal.org/subscribe**), follow us on social media (@CEHJournal) or use our new app (**bit.ly/CEHJ-app**), you may already have seen that we are now publishing articles online as soon as they are ready; we hope this will support you in this time of rapid change.

For more COVID-19 content, including case studies and instructions for making your own hand sanitiser gel, download the CEHJ App from **bit.ly/CEHJ-app** or visit our website: **www.cehjournal.org**

Elmien Wolvaardt

International Centre for Eye Health updates

The *Community Eye Health Journal* is published by the International Centre for Eye Health (ICEH), based at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) in London, UK. We offer the highly regarded MSc in Public Health for Eye Care, a one-year residential programme for future eye health leaders that has been running for several decades. Our alumni live and work around the globe, with many becoming prominent eye health leaders, including at the World Health Organization.

In recent months, several alumni in Latin America have come together to analyse the existing evidence on COVID-19 and the eye. Their publication can be accessed at **https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32490972**.

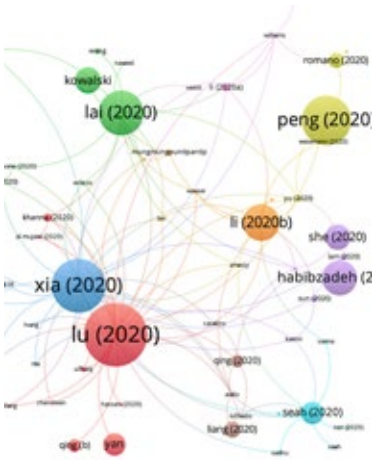

Figure 1 One of the figures in the study by Alberto LUJ et al., showing the connections between the publications they included in the study. The bubble size is proportional to the number of times a study was cited. Colours permit tracing each citation to its source.

For updates, follow @CEHJournal and @ICEH on Twitter and on Facebook.

Courses

Free online courses. The ICEH Open Education for Eye Care programme offers a series of online courses in key topics in public health eye care, relevant for all ophthalmic and medical health workers/providers. All the courses are free to access. The next runs of each online course will be announced in September 2020, with a new course on retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) launching later in 2020. Certification is also available.

For more information, visit **http://iceh.lshtm.ac.uk/oer/**

MSc Public Health for Eye Care, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Fully funded scholarships are available for Commonwealth country nationals. For more information visit **www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/masters/mscphec.html** or email **romulo.fabunan@lsthm.ac.uk**

Small Incision Cataract Surgery Training at Lions Medical Training Centre in Nairobi, Kenya. Email **training@lionsloresho.org** or call/message +254 728 970 601 or +254 733 619 191.

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine updates

LSHTM experts are involved in many different aspects of COVID-19 research and provide guidance to decision makers worldwide. Discover COVID-19 research tools, news, events and free online courses at **lshtm.ac.uk/coronavirus** or subscribe to the new LSHTM Viral podcast to hear more about the science behind the outbreak and the global response. Listen to LSHTM Viral wherever you get your podcasts.

For daily updates, follow @LSHTM on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, or search for the 'London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine' on LinkedIn.

IAPB Updates

The World Sight Day photo competition is back, with the theme, "Hope in Sight". The international photo competition, open to amateurs and professionals, has a special category for COVID-19 this year. The competition includes a cash prize of US $1,000 and a DSLR camera. Submit your entries at **http://photocomp.iapb.org**

The Eye Health Heroes 2020 development programme is open to eye health professionals under the age of 35. Find out more and nominate a hero at **https://www.iapb.org/EHH2020s**