



## Special Issue Call for Papers

### Recent Methodological, Statistical, and Design Innovations in the Field of Prevention Science

Co-Editors:

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July 28, 2025—The journal *Prevention Science* (ISSN: 1389-4986) is soliciting letters of intent to prepare a manuscript for consideration in a forthcoming special issue: **“Recent Methodological, Statistical, and Design Innovations in the Field of Prevention Science.”** Numerous methodological innovations have arisen in other disciplines that use advanced quantitative methods—including causal inference, computer science, econometrics, data science, epidemiology, psychometrics, and research design—that would be new to or have been underutilized in prevention science. Quantitative methodologists across multiple disciplines (e.g., Aguinis & Edwards, 2014; Flake et al., 2017), including prevention (Bryant et al., 1997), have argued that cross-disciplinary transfer of such methodological innovations does not always take place. Many methodological and statistical innovations see limited use or decades of delay prior to their use in applied research settings (Thoemmes & Kim, 2011), and methodological innovations often fail to impact applied areas because they do not always “show in concrete terms how to do the innovation” (Sharpe, 2013, p. 578). Papers exploring the application of methodological, statistical, and design innovations have great potential to generate interest in new methods and influence their use in prevention research.

One of the primary ways that methodological innovations can make it into practice is through demonstration articles. Often, such papers will include step-by-step data analytic examples and statistical code illustrations that showcase applications of the innovation, in a manner accessible to nontechnical audiences. This special issue was inspired in part by a symposium at the 2025 Meeting of the Society for Prevention Research entitled “[Advances in Examining ‘Old’ Problems with New Methodologies in Intervention Outcome Modeling](#)” (David Huh, Chair; Emily Tanner-Smith, Discussant).

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Catherine P. Bradshaw, Ph.D., *Editor, Prevention Science Journal*

**Associate Editors:** Andy Garbacz · Sharon Lambert · Sarah Lindstrom Johnson · Antonio Morgan-Lopez · Rashelle Musci · Hanno Petras · Emily Tanner-Smith



For this *Prevention Science* special issue, we encourage the submission of demonstration articles that advance prevention science by describing new methods that provide answers to new research questions or improve the answers to classic research questions. Papers should not overlap with recent methodological demonstration papers published elsewhere; if a paper's subject has been previously published, the submission for this special issue should demonstrate a significant advance in the presented methodology above-and-beyond previous methodological papers.

The papers should describe (a) the context from which the methodological advance emerged, (b) the domain of application of the methodological advance (e.g., type of data: longitudinal, clustered, nonnormal, needed sample size, etc.) for the appropriate use of the method, and (c) the ways in which the approach is superior to standard practice. There should be sufficient justification for the significance of the proposed advance in methodology and clear evidence that the methodology is underutilized in prevention research. Papers can include real data (with appropriate permissions for sharing) or simulated data that can be shared, in addition to relevant syntax for executing the methodology; ideally, syntax would be provided for executing the methodology across multiple software platforms. If simulated data are used for the paper, we strongly encourage authors to generate data from parameters that reflect real prevention data and submit data generation code so that reviewers can evaluate the appropriateness of the data generating model(s).

Authors interested in contributing a manuscript for this special issue are asked to submit a letter of intent by **October 1, 2025**, which includes the following: (1) tentative title; (2) brief description of 500 words or less; (3) brief justification of how the proposed submission contributes to the aims of the special issue; and (4) author affiliations and contact information for the corresponding author. The guest co-editors will review the letters of intent for fit with the special issue and work to curate an inclusive set of papers that best advances theoretical and empirical knowledge regarding implementation of recent methodological innovations and their implications for advancing prevention science. Letters of intent should be sent electronically as a PDF or Word file to Antonio A. Morgan-López ([amorganlopez@rti.org](mailto:amorganlopez@rti.org)) and Nisha Gottfredson O'Shea ([nishaoshea@rti.org](mailto:nishaoshea@rti.org)) with the subject line noted as "Methods Demonstration Special Issue." All letters of intent will be reviewed by **early October 2025**; invited contributors will be asked to submit a full manuscript through the *Prevention Science* online portal by **February 1, 2026**. Manuscripts will undergo full peer review in accordance with the standard *Prevention Science* review guidelines.

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Questions concerning letters of intent can be directed to Antonio Morgan-Lopez. For additional information on the journal and author guidelines, see <http://link.springer.com/journal/11121>.

#### References:

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