

ISBNPA Special Interest Group (SIG)

Socioeconomic inequalities in nutrition, physical activity and sedentary behaviours

Knowledge update July 2014

In this issue: Changes to SIG leadership; review of 2014 San Diego meeting; plans for 2015 Edinburgh meeting; profiling our SIG members; news & resources

Remember to tweet and follow us on Twitter! Follow and use #ISBNPASIG so other members can follow/converse as well. Any tweets relating to SIG topics – new research, questions, challenges, debates, news – are very welcome!



Changes to SIG leadership

After three years of leading the SIG on socioeconomic inequalities in nutrition, physical activity and sedentary behaviours, it is time for me (Kylie) to step down and pass on the leadership to others with new ideas and continued enthusiasm! I'm pleased to announce that Frank van Lenthe, co-convenor of the SIG, has agreed to continue in a co-leadership role in the short-term, and he will be ably assisted by Professor Pernille Due from the University of Southern Denmark, an active and highly-esteemed researcher in the field of socioeconomic inequalities, and one of our long-term SIG members.

In addition, Frank and Pernille will be supported by a team of early and mid-career researchers who will assist with the SIG leadership. These include Dr Lukar Thornton, Deakin University, Melbourne; Dr Dorota Zarnowiecki, University of South Australia, Adelaide; and Anja Mizdrak, University of Oxford. I'm thankful to this team for volunteering to continue the great momentum that the SIG has achieved in recent years, and I'm excited to continue to be a part of this.

This will be my last newsletter as SIG convenor, so I also take this opportunity to pass on my thanks to all of you as SIG members for your support and contributions to the SIG – please continue to remain actively involved in order to retain a vibrant SIG that serves its members well.

Review of 2014 San Diego Meeting, and plans for 2015 Edinburgh Meeting

According to reports from Frank van Lenthe and several SIG members, the SIG face-to-face meeting in San Diego was an inspiring one! Attended by around 40 SIG members, the session started with a lively discussion about potential SIG activities that might be undertaken over the coming years. Among the main suggestions were continuing the SIG newsletter, identifying a keynote speaker to talk about inequalities at the 2015 Edinburgh meeting, and a face-to-face get-together in Edinburgh, potentially of a slightly different format, such as a neighbourhood walk. These suggestions are all being actioned, and the new leadership team will be in touch with updates next time!

The SIG then held a discussion about approaches to measuring socioeconomic position. A further discussion of issues related to linking socioeconomic position to health behaviours was also planned, but the initial exchange over measurement was lively and hence the group didn't get to the second topic – hopefully this can be carried over to next time!

Profiling our SIG members

One of the key purposes of our SIG is to facilitate knowledge exchange and interaction among members. In this issue, we introduce Anja Mizdrak, SIG member and new member of the SIG leadership team – welcome and thank you Anja!



Name: Anja Mizdrak

Team members/key collaborators: Supervised by Dr Peter Scarborough (University of Oxford), Dr Wilma Waterlander (University of Auckland), and Dr Mike Rayner (University of Oxford)

Department/institution: British Heart Foundation Centre on Population Approaches for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention, Nuffield Department of Population Health, University of Oxford

Please tell us about the research you do that is related to the SIG: Anja's PhD project began in January 2014 and focuses on differential responses to food price changes by socio-economic group. Anja will be conducting a randomised controlled trial using a UK based virtual supermarket to test the effects of various pricing interventions on food purchases. Her research will contribute to understanding how different socioeconomic groups in the UK might respond to fiscal measures to improve diet (such as sugar-sweetened beverage taxes and fruit/vegetable subsidies).

The following resources may be of interest to SIG members.

Please let us know if you have published your SIG-related research recently – we would love to profile it.

News & resources

The US Centers for Disease Control have produced a Health Equity Resource Toolkit for State Practitioners Addressing Obesity Disparities. The resource kit aims to provide health practitioners with a systematic approach to program planning using a health equity lens. It outlines a six-step process for planning, implementing, and evaluating strategies to address obesity disparities. More detail can be found here: [CDC's Health Equity Resource Toolkit: Disseminating Guidance for State Practitioners to Address Obesity Disparities.](#)

Journal papers

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