

Urban Health Inequalities

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DESCRIPTION

The GIUH is a consolidated group of researchers with extensive expertise in collective health, social determinants of health, and environmental health/urban planning/housing. It has a long research itinerary through national and international groups. The group's main objectives are to deepen the knowledge of health and the determinants of health in urban areas, as well as to analyse their unequal distribution in population groups. In addition, it seeks to assess the impact of policies aimed at reducing health inequalities. Thus, the group's activity is located in the social and environmental epidemiology field, where it works to make visible both inequalities and their causes in formulating inequitable policies, looking for points of intervention for action.

The group's main objective is to deepen the knowledge and mechanisms involved in health determinants in urban areas and their unequal distribution in population groups. It also aims to evaluate the impact of policies on the population's health and health determinants and the reduction of health inequalities.

MAIN LINES OF RESEARCH

- Health effects and its determinants of different environmental factors such as air pollution, environmental noise, or climate change, as well as other characteristics of the urban environment. (Font Ribera, Laia; Mari Dell'Olmo, Marc).
- The relationship between housing and health, such as the mechanisms and mediators

between residential insecurity, energy poverty and health, and evaluate housing policies, such as cooperatives in cession of use. (Borrell Thio, Carme; Carrere Balcells, Julio).

- Evaluation of health impacts of urban planning policies and other policies aimed at reducing air pollution and environmental noise (e.g. Eixos Verds, Protegim les escoles), including road safety, as well as policies for mitigating and adapting to climate change (e.g. climate shelters). (Pérez González, Catherine; Gómez Gutiérrez, Anna).
- Evaluation of programs to promote equitable and healthy relationships on the reduction of gender violence and on improving the health of children, adolescents and young people in schools from an intersectional perspective. (Pérez Albarracín, Gloria; Juárez Martínez, Olga).
- Relationship between working conditions and health, including lack of access to work, job insecurity or involuntary reduced working hours and time poverty, among other situations. This line includes both paid work and unpaid domestic and care work. (Cortés Franch, Immaculada; Artazcoz Lazcano, Lucía).
- Inequality in the field of prevention (vaccines, early detection, etc.) and the promotion of health and well-being, and to develop and evaluate interventions aimed at preventing and mitigating them. (Díez David, Elia; Roel Herranz, Elena).
- Evaluation of programmes of community health implemented at neighbourhood level (within the framework of Barcelona Salut als Barris) aimed at reducing social inequalities in health and analyse the mechanisms that influence the effectiveness of the programmes. (Pasarín Rua, Maria Isabel; Daban Aguilar, Ferran).
- Health effects of determinants to safe, healthy, and sustainable eating, and evaluate the results, consistency and effectiveness of control and surveillance programmes and interventions related to food and marketing, production and consumption environments. (Rodríguez Sanz, Maica; Portaña Tudela, Samuel).
- There are also some areas that are cross-sectional to all areas such as social

inequalities in health according to the different axes of inequality. It is the line with the longest trajectory, with the group having extensive experience in the in-depth study of health inequalities according to gender, social class, territory, age and ethnicity, as well as the effect of the intersection between the different axes. It highlights the activity in deepening the social construction of social class, its measurement and its impact on health and health inequalities. It includes also extensive experience in gender inequalities in health and their intersection with social class. (Borrell Thio, Carme; Artazcoz Lazcano, Lucía).

SCIENTIFIC CHALLENGES

- Understanding and addressing health inequalities. The persistence of health inequalities based on various socio-demographic factors presents a scientific challenge. Effective interventions hinge upon a comprehensive understanding of the intricate interplay between social determinants of health and health outcomes.
- Harnessing digitalisation, data accessibility, and big data analytics. The scientific community faces the challenge of leveraging digitalisation and accessing vast datasets for meaningful analysis. Overcoming barriers to data accessibility and developing sophisticated analytical tools are imperative for extracting actionable insights from the increasing volume of health data.
- Promoting multi-disciplinary collaboration in public health research. The complexity of public health issues necessitates interdisciplinary collaboration to elucidate multifaceted challenges. Bridging disciplinary divides and fostering collaboration across research groups are critical scientific endeavours for addressing the intricacies of public health challenges.
- Translating research findings into practical solutions. One of the foremost scientific challenges in public health research is the translation of empirical findings into tangible and effective interventions and policies. Bridging the gap between research and practice demands innovative strategies and

robust implementation frameworks to ensure the seamless integration of evidence-based solutions into real-world settings.

ACTIVE & AWARDED GRANTS

- Cortes Franch, Immaculada. Condicions de treball i salut de les persones que exerceixen treball de cura a Barcelona, i impacte de polítiques públiques. 2024 DI 00064. Agència de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca (AGAUR). Duration: 2024-2027. 37.800,00 €
- Díez David, Elia. Efectividad de una intervención sobre la reticencia vacunal entre las enfermeras pediátricas y los pediatras: Un estudio de metodología mixta. PI21/01710. -Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII). Duration: 2022-2024. 141.570,00 €
- Novoa Pardo, Ana & Pérez González, Catherine. INSeguridad residencial e infancia: impacto en salud y propuesta de abordajes para la Protección y empoderamiento de la infancia afectada (INSPIRA). PI23/01634. Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII). Duration: 2024-2026. 140.000,00 €
- Juárez Martínez, Olga & Pérez Albarracín, Gloria. Evaluación de una estrategia de promoción de relaciones saludables i equitativas en el contexto escolar. PI23/01236. Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII). Duration: 2024-2026. 50.000,00 €
- Puig Barrachina, Vanessa. L-World in Health: Filling knowledge gaps and promoting competent primary care for Lesbians. CERV -2023-EQUAL LGBTIQ. European Commission. Duration: 2024-2026. 21.019,00 € (ASPB. Participant)
- Rodríguez Sanz, Maica. Transformació digital del control oficial de la seguretat alimentària. 2024 DI 00092. Agència de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca (AGAUR). Duration: 2024-2027. 21.600,00 €

DOCTORAL THESES DEFENDED

- Quijal-Zamorano, Marcos. Spatial and temporal analysis of temperature and mortality associations – exploring new approaches

to better understand the effects of climate change on health. 14/11/2024. Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Supervisors: Marí-Dell'Olmo, Marc; Ballester Claramunt, Joan. <http://hdl.handle.net/10803/692577>

- Vazquez Vera, Maria Constanza. Género, vivienda y salud: encuentros con la vivienda desde una perspectiva interseccional. 27/09/2024. Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Supervisors: Borrell Thio, Carme; Fernández Sánchez, Ana. <http://hdl.handle.net/10803/692293>

SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION

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- Artazcoz L, Cortès I, Arcas MM, Ollé L, Pérez K. Time poverty, health and health-related behaviours in a Southern European city: a gender issue. JOURNAL OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH. 2024; 78(5). DOI:10.1136/jech-2023-220750. PMID:38331561. IF:4,900 (Q1/1D). Document type: Article.
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