Transparency, Openness, and Reproducibility:
Implications for the Field of Prevention Science

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Dear Colleague:

We are writing to you on behalf of the journal ***Prevention Science*** to invite you to submit a letter of intent to prepare a manuscript for consideration in a forthcoming special issue entitled, "*Transparency, Openness, and Reproducibility: Implications for the Field of Prevention Science*". The scientific community has created a reward system that does not sufficiently incentivize the vital features of science: i.e., transparency, openness, and reproducibility. Concerns about research waste, scientific misconduct, and lack of replication are consequently rising. To safeguard the credibility of the scientific enterprise, researchers and other interested stakeholders have begun to list, develop, and implement transparent, open, and reproducible workflows. A research enterprise that shifts from closed to transparent and reproducible workflows is expected to improve the rigor and reliability of research, facilitate faster and more inclusive dissemination of scientific knowledge, and ultimately accelerate scientific progress towards addressing society's most pressing issues. Researchers, research institutions, scientific journals, funders, and professional organizations are therefore seeking guidance and training on how best to incorporate these workflows into their everyday practice.

The field of prevention science has yet to engage explicitly with this movement. Nonetheless, it has significant implications for the work of prevention scientists, such as identifying evidence-based interventions with reproducible change strategies and replicable effects. Conversely, the field of prevention science could serve as a leader in this movement, given its dedication to developing and disseminating solutions to intractable social problems. Thought leadership is needed to shift the field's norms and traditional approach to embracing transparency, openness, and reproducibility.

This special issue, *Transparency, Openness, and Reproducibility: Implications for the Field of Prevention Science*, seeks to address a variety of issues related to the topics of transparency, open science, and reproducibility as they intersect with the field of prevention science. Multiple perspectives on these issues will be discussed and considered, including those of researchers, research institutions, program developers, journals, funders/sponsors, and educators of the next generation of prevention scientists. We are interested in practices that facilitate the reproducibility of research (e.g., study registration, protocol and pre-analysis plan development, material and code sharing) as well as those that facilitate the open availability of research products (data sharing, pre-prints, open access publications). As the open science movement has

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gained traction, there has also been growing attention to the potential for it to reinforce (rather than eradicate) existing inequitable power structures within the scientific enterprise. Therefore, we also welcome papers on topics related to ethics, diversity, and inclusion in open science in the prevention field. In this respect, our proposed issue stands to make a substantive contribution to the field regarding how transparency, openness, and reproducibility can benefit the aims of prevention science as a field, as well as how prevention scientists can contribute their expertise to advancing the wider open science movement.

The overall objective of this Special Issue is to examine the intersection of the open science movement with prevention science, with the goal of addressing the following aims:

- Introduce prevention scientists to transparent, open, and reproducible research workflows.
- Provide prevention scientists with worked examples of using transparent, open, and reproducible research workflows.
- Examine the implications of transparency, replication, and open science to the field of prevention science as a whole.
- Discuss how prevention scientists can contribute their expertise to advancing the wider open science movement.

Authors interested in contributing a manuscript for this special issue are asked to submit a letter of intent by **May 1, 2020,** 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 aim of the special issue; and (4) author affiliations and contact information for corresponding author. The guest co-editors will review the letters of intent for fit with the special issue and work to provide an inclusive set of papers that best advances theoretical and empirical knowledge regarding the application of open science principles and practices to the field of prevention science. Multiple types of papers are welcomed, including original empirical articles, reviews, methodological papers etc. Letters of intent should be sent electronically as a PDF or word file to Sean Grant (spgrant@iu.edu) and Catherine Bradshaw (cbradsha@jhsph.edu) with the subject line noted as "Special Issue of Prevention Science: Open Science." All letters of intent will be reviewed by June 1, 2020, and invited contributors will be asked to submit a full manuscript through the online review system by **September 1, 2020.** Manuscripts will be sent out for full peer review in accordance with the standard *Prevention Science* review guidelines.

Questions concerning letters of intent can be directed to Sean Grant or Catherine Bradshaw. Manuscript formats can include original empirical submissions, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, brief reports etc. For additional information on the journal and author guidelines, see http://link.springer.com/journal/11121.

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