QHR is delighted to announce a call for papers for our Special Issue: Culturally Responsive Qualitative Health Research.

Special issues are designed to promote awareness and discussion among the QHR community about important contemporary and emergent matters relevant to qualitative health research. They focus on methodological, substantive, practice, and theoretical issues, including their intersections, related to those matters.

The guest editors who will work on this special issue in partnership with the QHR editorial team are Lorien S. Jordan and Jori N. Hall. They have prepared the following outline of the aim and purpose of the special edition.

This special issue of Qualitative Health Research invites authors to contribute manuscripts that explore culturally responsive qualitative research (CRQR). CRQR is a research methodology that includes qualitative designs and qualitatively dominant designs and centers culture (Hall, 2020). Culture within CRQR projects is a complex concept and often reflects the intersecting cultures of the participant-community, the researcher, and the discipline within which the researcher is housed (Jordan & Hall, 2023). CRQR aims to disrupt how much research conducted on communities has been harmful, marginalizing, essentializing, and pathologizing. As Berryman et al. (2013) asserted, culturally responsive methodologies “challenge all forms of traditional research paradigms that devalue or dehumanize human participants” (p. 1). This is especially important in the health-related disciplines, where historic and contemporary research-based unethical practices (Chouinard & Cram, 2019) have left communities distrustful of researchers. CRQR, therefore, offers health researchers an invitation to seriously engage in methods and methodologies which seek to ameliorate these challenges and transform the health landscape.

We encourage researchers, practitioners, and scholars from diverse areas of health-related practices, traditions, and disciplines to submit original work that addresses often understudied topics of culturally responsive qualitative research. Examples of topics for the special issue may include but are not limited to:

- Discussions on what characterizes culturally responsive qualitative methodologies within a particular health-related field or community context.
- Critical consideration of the paradigm shifts that culturally responsive research presents for health providers and researchers.
- Explorations on the intersection of ethics and culture in culturally responsive research.
- Examinations of the ways in which qualitative research guided by a culturally responsive lens can aid researchers in eliminating health disparities—broadly conceived.
- Exemplifications of the application of culturally responsive methodologies, from design to dissemination.
- Dialogues on the theories and conceptual frameworks that extend, engage, and enliven culturally responsive qualitative research.
- Novel qualitative methods or methodologies that advance cultural responsiveness.
- Explorations of the intersectionality of culture with other social categories such as gender, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.
- Examples of successful community-engaged qualitative research projects.
- Reflections on the challenges, tensions, or lessons learned seeking to adopt a culturally responsive orientation in a health-related field.

Submission guidelines

- Manuscripts should be prepared according to the Qualitative Health Research guidelines for authors.
- Submissions should clearly indicate that they are intended for the “Special Issue on Culturally Responsive Qualitative Health Research.”
- Manuscripts will undergo a rigorous peer-review process to ensure the highest quality and relevance to the special issue theme.

Important dates

- Early submissions are welcome; final deadline for submission: July 1, 2024.
- Anticipated publication of Special Issue: March 2025.