

Foreword

Sistema Salute experiments new editorial approaches

The editorial board of this journal undoubtedly enjoys a privileged advantage on the production of scientific texts on health promotion, health education, organisation of social and health services, development of epidemiological knowledge and the needs to which public health can provide effective responses.

We now are sharing opinion that society taking place changes profoundly altered the ways these important health functions are developed, documented and then disseminated at health services various levels, institutions, university world and disadvantaged people associations committed into promotion and health and environment protection.

We are witnessing a lasting and worrying decline in receiving scientific articles, implying a proportional decline in their production: probably due to a series of very broad factors, ranging from the disappearance of last century political subjectivities leading to the birth and development of NHS and functions above mentioned as well, reduction in the number of workers engaged actually in NHS, thanks to austerity policies and real assessments by central government on personnel over the short term need, as well as the disappearance of many personalities who contributed with their wealth of proposals to the development of journal covered functions. Further support to the rarefaction of the contributions may derive from a greater overall attention to activities offered at different levels of NHS, to publishing in our journal scarce reward offering authors in impact factor terms, insufficient audience - by only Italian-language readers - from dissemination restriction of content due to the partial indexing on global search engines in turn justified by the prevalence of narrative styles based on personal opinions rather than on properly planned and evaluated experiences, or on scientific literature reviews.

While political subject of twentieth century has disappeared, on a more general level we are witnessing growth of territorial and global disputes for health and

environment in face of the obvious limitations of the current production system and its tendency to propose false solutions to environmental degradation and health problems incessantly produced. These disputes, ranging from struggles seeking to counter the increasingly evident climate change and environmental degradation, produce new power in the promotion and protection of health, in defence of territories from pollution and workplaces from harmfulness, but not always finding space and reasons for interaction in NHS services, either because the companies management prevents operators from freedom of fundamental interaction to dialogue with movements, or because institutions not always perceived as benevolent by movements themselves; either because in many cases the prevention current legislation is more oriented towards the maintenance of defined risk productions, even if they are polluting and harmful to the health of those involuntarily exposed; finally because for many years prevention services have enjoyed a total delegation on environmental prevention being exercised with technocratic approaches; a focus on the health proximal determinants justified as scarce towards the distal determinants, combined with an equally scarce attention to struggles added value of those exposed to environmental pollution bring. In this way, the disputes often remain at the level of the production of “grey” material which is published on social networks without expressing the information potential, interaction with prevention services and wealth of contained issues.

Starting from the here briefly mentioned issues, we decided to diversify and enrich our editorial approach by proposing to readers and experts of the subject some experiments providing a new articulation of Sistema Salute as it follows:

- a. an editorial space opening dedicated to health disputes (based on quality of solicited materials whether in the form of an annual dedicated issue either in form of a dedicated column in each issue); to document them, promote their knowledge, refine the arguments, allow them to be read across the board in order to enhance their impact and produce greater osmosis between the needs expressed by those exposed through them and the activities of services, local institutions and universities;
- b. greater interaction with the NHS, universities and local institutions aimed at stimulating production of texts on health promotion related issues;
- c. launch of an annual issue in English in which articles evaluated by the Editorial Committee, among those published in the last year, to be proposed to a global audience as they meet the criteria of methodological quality in text articulation, focused on general interest issues and with significant innovative elements in approach and proposal.

In this perspective this issue contains six articles with following specific contents.

Milena Vainieri et al. present tools developed to evaluate chronic patient pathway performance, reiterating need for measurement systems able to assess the organisations ability in decisions making and implementing effective actions.

Carlo Romagnoli examines, on research in sociology of organisations basis, health policies, organisational design parameters and criteria inspiring corporatisation of NHS and highlighting how critical economists see in the growing role of the knowledge economy reasons in order to overcome corporate ownership logic.

Guido Citoni et al. discuss the SARS-COV 2 pandemic challenges from a health economics perspective, reporting on evidence of income-based equity in health services use and financing. The authors warn the risk of an triggered pandemic economic crisis by the that will increase socioeconomic inequalities and thus further reduce the equity of the public health system.

A model for territorial primary prevention is proposed by *Carlo Romagnoli, Anna Rita Guarducci, Fabio Neri, Lucio Pala and Giovanni Vantaggi*, who reconstruct the process of an eco-district sharing and developing, identified on the basis of careful interaction with the environmental committees in which they participate in various capacities. This operation is developed paying great attention for health, environment and economy advantages, given availability, in the current economic situation, of substantial economic resources for those willing give substance to the development of eco-sustainable innovations and concrete knowledge on the common management of these matrices.

Massimo Formica, a medical doctor who reflected for years on agro-ecology potential, explores a territorial primary prevention model characteristics centered on the organic district. He starts from a profound knowledge of the properties, characteristics and specificity of that part of the organic world that comes into contact with the techniques used in agricultural production. He tackles the problem of these practices management characteristics and the consequent production of food in order not to be “disruptive” of the underlying complex systemic balances.

The bio-architect *Francesco Masciarelli* makes a further leap forward of ecodistrict territorial primary prevention model complexification, placing it within a systemic and participatory design of the socio-ecological matrixes as an interface between human and environmental systems. After decades of territories brutalising with policies of pure service to the private sector, *Masciarelli* provides a contribution that is as rich as in-depth to rethink urban planning policies capable of sustaining reality complexity, providing a systemic modelling that fully restores the meaning of the expression “making health in all policies”.

We hope those carried out experiments will stimulate new energies and manage

to interact with those which are now being expressed in society, thus helping to broaden their impact.

We ask readers to offer contributions interfacing new editorial structure, and to develop observations and criticisms allowing us to further improve *Sistema Salute* and overcome the current impasse of the journal.

On behalf of the Editorial Board
Carlo Romagnoli
Lamberto Briziarelli
Filippo Bauleo