

**Journal of the Georgia Public Health Association 2026 Special Issue
Call for Papers**

Systems Evolution: Optimizing Public Health Delivery Through Technology, Data, Research, Community and Workforce Adaptation

Overview: The modern public health landscape is defined by a rapid transition toward high-utility data and integrated technology. As practitioners face evolving administrative and environmental challenges, the need for **objective, scalable, community-driven, evidence-based solutions** has never been higher.

This special issue focuses on the "how-to" of modernizing public health. We are seeking submissions that demonstrate how AI, data integration, and innovative, community-driven workforce models can improve health systems and outcomes across diverse geographies and demographics without compromising operational stability.

Priority Themes

I. Data-Driven Decision Support & AI

- **Resource Optimization:** Using predictive analytics to manage limited budgets and personnel.
- **Objective Surveillance:** Leveraging AI to identify emerging health trends and "signal" detection in real-time.
- **Privacy-Preserving Tech:** Implementing secure data frameworks that protect sensitive information.

II. Enhancing Access for and Leadership of Special Populations

- **Clinical Utility:** Utilizing assistive technologies to improve health delivery for individuals with disabilities.
- **Support Frameworks:** Case studies on using mobile health (mHealth) to reach communities underserved due to limited/suboptimal health or system engagement.
- **Standardizing Care:** Using data to ensure consistent service delivery regardless of demographic factors.
- **Community governance models:** Demonstrating community co-creation and leadership in public health programs or interventions

II. Workforce Resilience & Professional Education

- **Competency-Based Training:** How Schools of Public Health, Physician Assistant and Nursing can integrate "Digital Health Literacy" into standard curricula.
- **Administrative Efficiency:** Using technology to reduce the "documentation burden" on frontline nurses and health officers.
- **Cross-Training:** Models for preparing the workforce to handle rapid shifts in public health priorities.

IV. Rural Health & Infrastructure Modernization

- **Technical Connectivity:** Solutions for low-bandwidth environments to ensure rural clinics remain integrated with state systems.
- **Mobile Outreach:** Innovations in "clinic-on-wheels" and remote patient monitoring (RPM) to bridge the geographic gap.
- **Economic Impact:** The role of improved rural health outcomes in regional workforce stability.

V. Maternal and Life-Course Health Innovation

- **Maternal Health Outcomes:** Using data to identify and mitigate clinical risk factors in prenatal and postpartum care.
- **Preventive Screening:** Technological advancements in early detection and routine screenings for women's health.

VI. The Evolving Role of Evidence

- **Real-World Evidence (RWE):** Moving from theoretical models to what works in the field.
- **Interoperability Standards:** Technical pathways to connecting disparate data systems for a "whole-person" view of health.

Submissions should follow all guidelines specified at [jGPHA - GPHA: Georgia Public Health Association](#) . Cover letters should reference submission in response to the special issue ***Systems Evolution: Optimizing Public Health Delivery Through Technology, Data, Research, Community and Workforce Adaptation***. Submissions will be reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis **until September 29, 2026**.