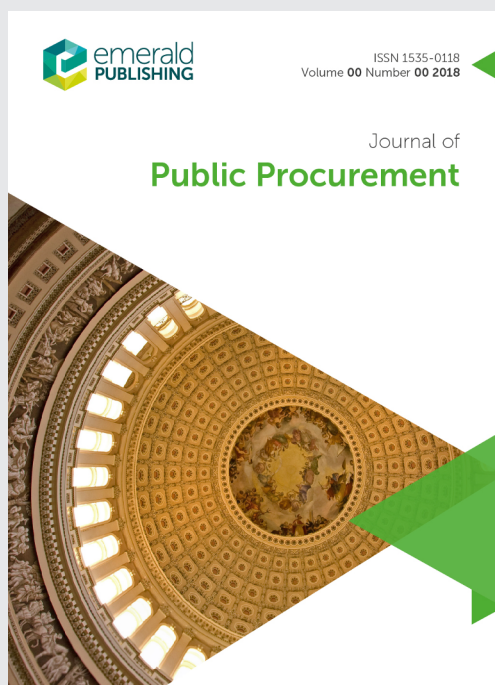




Journal of Public Procurement

Special Issue: The Role of Public Procurement in Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic



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Journal of Public Procurement

Guest Editors:

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The devastating experience of the COVID-19 epidemic is unveiling critical weaknesses of public healthcare provision in times in crisis. Undoubtedly, some of the healthcare shortcomings that have emerged during the pandemic are related to public healthcare organizations' purchasing of goods and services for the healthcare sector. When public procurement norms and practices engender inefficient and ineffective sourcing processes, the resulting negative outcomes include slowness in responding to the crisis, from the bottlenecks in the procurement of critical medical equipment for ICU and other hospitalized patients, to the purchase of far simpler items such as protective masks.

During the crisis, different public health systems at national or regional level in different parts of the world have leveraged public procurement using a variety of strategies depending on local legislation and prevailing practices. Sharing and consolidating this knowledge may help identify "best practices" that can be used as foundation for future actions that facilitate public procurement in the health care sector.

This special issue aims at providing a platform for discussion and research on the topic of public procurement in the healthcare sector by answering the following questions: What has been/is the role of Public Procurement in facilitating the management of the COVID-19 pandemic? How can Public Procurement be leveraged to manage health crises? The special issue will cut across different areas of research relating to public procurement for health services including, but not limited to:

- Public policy and procurement strategy (e.g. group purchasing and cross-border coordinated purchases)
- Public-private partnerships
- Vendor selection criteria
- Use of Pfl and PCP for the development of cures, apps and organizational innovations
- Innovative initiatives, practices, procedures and organisation models of public procurement in the health sector, including the procurement of medicinal products, medical devices and services
- How to find alternative capacity and suppliers quickly under supply capacity constraints (i.e. so called reverse marketing approach in times of crisis)
- How risk management needs to change in the future

The Special Issue welcomes empirical research built on either primary survey data or secondary data, and case studies providing examples of how to optimize public purchasing processes. We also welcome conceptual papers (e.g. critiques of existing theories/frameworks which may not prove relevant/useful in times of crisis).

Submission Guidelines

All papers should be submitted by 31st October 2020. Manuscripts should be submitted through the journal's ScholarOne system (link below). All submissions will be subject to peer review and it is expected that authors will receive the first round of feedback by 31st January 2021.

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