Overall, the population of the developed countries has enjoyed improved health and longer life expectancy. However, when you look at the overall health, including cancer related illnesses, the gap is widening between developed and developing countries. According to WHO, the social determinants of health are mostly responsible for health inequities. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines health disparities as differences in health outcomes between groups that reflect social inequalities.

So the aim of this special issue is to provide a forum for health professionals, researchers, educators, politicians, non-government agencies, and social activists to share their knowledge on cancer prevalence and factors related to cancer disparities from a global perspective. We welcome manuscripts to share knowledge and findings on cancer disparities and factors related to cancer morbidity and mortality with a global perspective.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to the following:

- Social determinants of cancer health disparities
- The incidence and prevalence of morbidity (e.g., cervical cancer, lung cancer) and mortality of cancer
- Social factors of cancer health disparities
- Cultural factors of cancer health disparities
- Behavior factors of cancer health disparities
- Psychological factors of cancer health disparities
- Health care resource and access factors of cancer health disparities
- Biological factors of cancer health disparities

Papers must be original contributions, not previously published nor currently under review by other journals. Previously published papers in conference proceedings may be considered provided that they have been extended and improved.
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Asia-Pacific Journal of Oncology Nursing
Haeok Lee, RN, PhD, FAAN who is a Korean American nurse scientist, received her doctoral degree from the Nursing Physiology Department, College of Nursing, University of California San Francisco (UCSF) in 1993 and her post-doctoral training from college of medicine, UCSF. Dr. Lee worked at Case Western Reserve University, and University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. She has worked at the UMass Boston since 2008. Dr. Lee has established a long-term commitment to minority health, especially Asian American Pacific Islanders, as a community leader, community health educator, and community researcher, and all these services have become a foundation for her community based participatory research (CBPR). Dr. Lee's research addresses current health problems framed in the context of social, political, and economic settings and her studies have improved racial and ethnic data and developed national health policies to address health disparities in HBV infections and liver cancer among minorities. Dr. Lee's research, which is noteworthy for its theoretical base, is clearly filling the gap. Especially Dr. Lee's research is beginning to have a favorable impact on national and international health policies and continuing education programs directed toward the global elimination of cervical and liver cancer-related health disparities in underserved and understudied populations.