Call for Papers for a Special Issue: Health Care Transition for Adolescents and Emerging Adults with Special Health Care Needs and Disabilities

Issue Editors: Imelda Coyne, RCN, RGN, RSCN, PhD, and Maria E. Ferris, MD, MPH, PhD

The Journal of Pediatric Nursing is pleased to announce the forthcoming publication (September/October 2015) of a focused issue on health care transition (HCT) for adolescents and emerging adults with special health care needs and disabilities. Advancements in science, technology, and practice have led to improvements in the life expectancy of children and youth diagnosed with special health care needs or disabilities wherein 90% now survive into adulthood. Data on the long-term biopsychosocial outcomes of these adults reveal health and lifestyle challenges, such as the emergence of secondary conditions, preventable condition-related complications, higher rates of unemployment, postsecondary underachievement, and lower levels of self-reported quality of life.

In response to this growing problem of unmet needs for comprehensive health services for adolescents and emerging adults who leave pediatric and child-oriented systems of care, HCT has emerged as a distinct field of interprofessional specialty science and practice. It is timely to feature articles that address the myriad of health and psychosocial issues associated with HCT.

We invite authors to submit papers that address the biopsychosocial issues pertaining to HCT practice and research. We are interested in reviewing papers on the development and implementation of interprofessional service models and programs; issues associated with adolescents and emerging adults as they participate in the HCT process; interprofessional issues; self-management; access to health, social, employment, and community services; and parent and sibling issues.

We welcome research, clinical practice, reviews, and theoretical papers. Authors can include links to websites, applications, or demonstrations; video demonstrations up to 3 minutes; audio files; and multiple photos, forms, documents, or figures that illustrate the text.

Manuscripts should be submitted to ees.elsevier.com/jpediatrnurs by March 1, 2015. Authors should consult the Guide for Authors there and use the Article Type “Special Issue—Health Care Transitions” when uploading submissions. Content queries can be directed to Imelda Coyne at coynei@tcd.ie or Maria Ferris at maria_ferris@med.unc.edu. Submission questions can be sent to Editor in Chief Cecily Betz at cbetz@chla.usc.edu.