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Journal of Rural Health Recognizes 2021 Article of Year

The Journal of Rural Health (JRH) will recognize its 2021 Article of the Year during the National Rural Health Association's (NRHA) [virtual 44th Annual Rural Health Conference](#) May 4-7. The JRH Editorial Board selected the winner from all JRH articles published online last year.

The 2021 Article of the Year is "Progression of COVID-19 from Urban to Rural Areas in the United States: A Spatiotemporal Analysis of Prevalence Rates" by Rajib Paul, Ahmed Arif, Oluwaseun Adeyemi, Subhanwita Ghosh, and Dan Han.

The study's authors used crowdsourced data on COVID-19 and linked them to county-level demographics, smoking rates, and chronic diseases. Their findings showed a rapid spread of COVID-19 across urban and rural areas over the course of 21 days. The authors determined that studies based on quality data are needed to further explain the role of social determinants of health on COVID-19 prevalence.

Selection criteria for the Article of the Year include average downloads per month and evaluation by the JRH Editorial Board regarding methodology and importance.

"Our rural research community serves a key role in the development of good public policy," says NRHA CEO Alan Morgan. "NRHA is proud to select this vital and timely research as our Article of the Year."

About JRH

JRH is a quarterly peer-reviewed journal published by NRHA. It is devoted to advancing professional practice, research, theory development, and public policy related to rural health.

About NRHA

NRHA is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and wellbeing of rural Americans and provide leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education, and research. NRHA's membership is made up of more than 21,000 diverse individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.

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