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Bi-Annual meeting

We convened our bi-annual WPA Epidemiology and Public Health Section meeting in Bangkok, Thailand from October 9th to 11th, 2024. The final report, including a program of the meeting is attached as an addendum to this report. As a high-level summary, we had 138 registered attendees at the meeting and 50+ presentations. Attendees were drawn from 33 countries.

New membership

During the business meeting of the bi-annual meeting, we approved five new members to the section, based on reviewing their CVs and nominations. With these five additions, our total membership is 132 scholars, including members from North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.

Elections

In 2024 we held elections for our executive board, consistent with the by-laws of our section. The election process included a nominations committee comprised of past executive officers, who comprised the slate of candidates for election. All current members were provided with unique links to vote for the slate of candidates, and strong turn out on voting was received. We thus elected the following executive board, who will hold these terms for three years.

WPA executive board

Katherine Keyes	President
Lukoye Atwoli	Vice president
Corina Benjet	General secretary
Louisa Degenhardt	Member
Michael Ni	Member
Mauro Carta	Member
Viviane Kovess	Member

The Executive Board meets monthly to discuss section activities and make plans for future meetings.

Co-sponsored symposia and coordination with other societies

The WPA Epidemiology and Public Health section co-sponsored a symposium at the American Psychopathological Association meeting in Boston, MA on March 8th, 2025. The session was chaired by WPA Epidemiology & Public Health section president Katherine Keyes, and included scientific talks by Michael Ni, Corina Benjet, Lukoye Atwoli, and Theresa Betancourt.

We have had discussions with other societies including the International Federal of Psychiatric Epidemiology and the European Psychiatric Association and plan to engage in co-sponsored symposia at their upcoming meetings.

Upcoming WPA Epidemiology and Public Health congress meeting

The next WPA Epidemiology & Public Health section meeting will be in Sardinia, Italy from September 30th to October 2nd, 2026. We are actively planning the scientific program for the meeting.

Participation in the WPA Congress meeting in Stockholm

We have submitted a symposium proposal for the WPA Congress meeting in Stockholm this coming September, and plan to hold a business meeting for the section while in Stockholm as well.

Scholarship

Past president Elie Karam and current president Katherine Keyes co-authored an editorial for World Psychiatry about the Bangkok meeting and reflections in the future of Psychiatric Epidemiology. It is published in World Psychiatry in June 2025, and can be accessed here:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/40371792/>.

Website

Information on our section and upcoming meetings can be found here: <https://wpaepi2026.org>.