Traditionally, manuscripts finding null age effects were not especially welcome at top aging journals, given the ambiguity inherent in such findings. However, some processes of interest to psychologists studying aging may actually not vary by age, and a complete science of psychological aging cannot only include processes or measures with significant age differences. As described in detail in the target article, “Improving Inferences about Null Effects with Bayes Factors and Equivalence Tests” by Lakens et al., new methods have been developed to provide a way to assess whether null age effects found in studies are indeed ambiguous or might actually be meaningful.

The goal of this special issue, which will be published online in 2019 followed by print publication in April 2020, is to showcase empirical examples of conceptually relevant null age effects in which some of the key hypothesis tests show meaningful null age differences using one of the newly presented methods. Together, the hope is that the manuscripts will show the promise of these new techniques for refining our understanding of age-related similarities as well as differences in psychological processes.

Authors are invited to submit proposals for manuscripts that utilize at least one of the methods for supporting null age effects described in the target paper (such as Bayes factors, or equivalence tests), to present conceptually important and analytically meaningful null age effects.

To avoid duplicative topics and to enable us to develop a comprehensive issue, a 250-word abstract describing the paper's focus should be submitted electronically at mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jgps in response to this special issue call for papers by September 1, 2018. The abstract should specify the analytic tool(s) used to support null effects and include the conceptually important and analytically meaningful null age effects that will be reported in the full manuscript.

Please be sure to include all author names and contact information. Our team of editors will identify abstracts of interest and selected authors will be invited to submit full manuscripts. Full manuscripts will be evaluated using the journal's psychological sciences usual peer review process.

Before submission, authors should carefully read the author guidelines for the Journal of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences located at academic.oup.com/psychsocgerontology/pages/General_Instruction_2. The types of manuscripts considered include Research Articles and Research Reports. Manuscripts should be submitted electronically at mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jgps according to the following timetable:

Abstract Submission Deadline: September 1, 2018
Manuscript Submission Deadline: January 1, 2019