

The Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM) at the University of Bern performs research in a range of disciplines relevant to public health ([www.ispm.unibe.ch](http://www.ispm.unibe.ch)). The Paediatric Epidemiology Research Group conducts population-based and clinical studies in child health, focusing on cancer and respiratory disorders.

The CANSEARCH Research Laboratory at the University of Geneva is doing research in individualized therapy in paediatric oncology and haematology (pharmacokinetics and genetics, [www.cansearch.ch](http://www.cansearch.ch)). The Swiss Germline DNA Biobank is hosted there, which collects samples from children with cancer to perform research on various aspects of childhood cancer genetics, particularly predictors for late effects.

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UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN



Schweizer Kinderkrebsregister  
Registre Suisse du Cancer de l'Enfant  
Registro Svizzero dei Tumori Pediatrici  
Swiss Childhood Cancer Registry



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE



CANSEARCH

***We are looking for a highly motivated***

## **PhD student on hearing complications after childhood cancer**

**Period:** Fixed-term contract for 3 years, start in 2019

**Place:** University of Bern (60%)/ University of Geneva (40%), Switzerland

**Apply no later than:** June 15, 2019

Most children diagnosed with cancer in 2019 will be cured, but the toxic treatments cause late effects in 2/3 of all childhood cancer survivors (CCS). Children treated with certain chemotherapies (platinum agents) and radiation to the head often suffer from hearing complications, and some might need hearing aids. The Swiss Childhood Cancer Registry (SCCR) includes all children diagnosed with cancer since 1976. The national population-based Swiss Childhood Cancer Survivor Study (SCCSS) is nested in the SCCR and collects information from over 4500 survivors on their long-term health and quality of life. Your PhD will help to find out more about hearing complications after childhood cancer and its influence on quality of life. You will also contribute to the collection of data for genotype-phenotype association studies of the CANSEARCH Laboratory to help finding out the genetic predictors for hearing complications.

### **During your PhD you will:**

- Set up a project to test hearing function in childhood cancer survivors in all Switzerland.
- Contribute to the clinical data collection on hearing complications.
- Help with questionnaire surveys to survivors and their siblings.
- Identify risk factors for hearing complications.
- Investigate how hearing complications affect quality of life.
- Collaborate with a team of oncologists, statisticians, pharmacogeneticists, and other PhD students.
- Present your results in international meetings and publish them in peer-reviewed journals.

### **You have:**

- A university degree (MSc or equivalent) in medicine or applied sciences (biomedical sciences, biology, statistics, public health etc.).
- A strong interest in child health, epidemiology and statistical methods, and genetics.
- Fluency in English, fluency in German and/or French highly preferred

### **What we offer:**

- Working in a motivated and competent research team.
- Teaching in epidemiological methods and statistical techniques.
- Preparation for a research career in a scientific setting (university), a clinical setting (paediatric teaching hospital), or a public health institution.
- Training for medical doctors: The ISPM is an FMH certified training centre in Public Health.
- The Paediatric Oncology and Haematology unit as well as the CANSEARCH research laboratory are FMH certified. You can account one year of your MD-PhD for training in Paediatrics and other specialties
- Enrolling in a lively graduate school of the University of Bern and Geneva.
- Salary according to the Swiss National Science Foundation Salary scales for PhD students.

For further information on the position advertised, please contact to Prof. Dr. med. Claudia Kuehni ([claudia.kuehni@ispm.unibe.ch](mailto:claudia.kuehni@ispm.unibe.ch)) or Prof. Dr. med. Marc Ansari ([marc.ansari@hcuge.ch](mailto:marc.ansari@hcuge.ch))

Please send your application including a CV in PDF to Human Resources administration: [hr@ispm.unibe.ch](mailto:hr@ispm.unibe.ch)