

Dear SSPH+ Community,

We are pleased to share the June edition of the SSPH+ Newsletter, featuring highlights from the successful SSPH+ Annual Meeting 2026, recent news from across our network, upcoming events, and open calls. Enjoy reading!

SSPH+ HIGHLIGHT

SSPH+ Annual Meeting 2026 - “Protecting Science – Protecting Health”

The SSPH+ Annual Meeting 2026, held on 23–24 June 2026 at the [University of Fribourg](#), brought together more than **170 participants** from across the Swiss public health community to exchange ideas, showcase research, strengthen collaborations, and celebrate achievements. This year's meeting featured:

- 8 keynote sessions with 17 distinguished speakers
- 6 parallel scientific sessions
- The annual IGC Student Meeting, inc. the celebration of our newest SSPH+ IGC graduates
- The SSPH+ Academic Board Meeting
- Dedicated career development activities, including a Project Management Workshop for SSPH+ IGC PhD students and postdocs and Career Speed Dating
- Multiple networking opportunities
- The Best Published PhD Article Award ceremony
- Recognition of new SSPH+ Honorary Fellows
- Partners' events ([Swiss Public Health Doctors](#) and [Smarter Healthcare](#))

A heartfelt **thank you** to all participants, speakers, moderators, partners, and everyone who contributed to making this event such a success. Your enthusiasm, engagement, and commitment created an exceptional atmosphere for learning, discussion, and collaboration. In the coming weeks, we will share presentation slides and photos from the meeting on our [website](#). Stay tuned!

We are also pleased to highlight two special moments from this year's meeting. It is a pleasure to introduce the newly **appointed SSPH+ Honorary Fellows for 2026**. Honorary Fellows are recognized for their exceptional careers and achievements in public health, particularly in research and education. We are honored to award the 2026 SSPH+ Honorary Fellow title to four pioneers in cancer prevention:

Celebration of 2026 SSPH+ Honorary Fellows



Christine Bouchardy



Monica Castiglione



Giorgio Nosedà



Reto Obrist

This year's SSPH+ Award for **Best Published PhD Article in Public Health** goes to SSPH+ PhD student **Rida Khan** for her paper, "*Analysing celebrity and influencer marketing of food and beverages to adolescents on Instagram*," published in Public Health Nutrition.

BEST PUBLISHED PHD ARTICLE WINNER



Rida Khan

Supervisor: Prof. L. Suzanne Suggs,
Università della Svizzera italiana

Article: Analysing celebrity and influencer marketing of
food and beverages to adolescents on Instagram

Published in Public Health Nutrition (Aug 2025)

Looking ahead, preparations are already underway for the next edition of the Annual Meeting. We look forward to welcoming you to **the SSPH+ Annual Meeting 2027**, hosted by [SUPSI Campus Mendrisio](#) on **9–10 June 2027**, under the theme: "One Health: From Global to Local South." We hope to see you there!

SSPH+ Annual Report 2025

We are pleased to present **the SSPH+ Annual Report 2025**, showcasing another year of collaboration, innovation, and impact in public health research and education.

The report highlights key achievements across our research, education, and training activities, as well as important developments within the SSPH+ network throughout the year. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed putting it together!

Read the full report here: [SSPH+ Annual Report 2025](#).

SSPH+ COURSES

Currently, all IGC courses through September 2026 are **fully booked**. Nevertheless, we encourage you to join the waiting list, as last-minute cancellations occasionally occur and places may still become available. We would be delighted to offer any available slots to waiting list participants and ensure that as many students as possible can benefit from our courses. **To register for the waiting list, please contact phdph@ssphplus.ch.**

Upcoming courses in August & September:

- 26–28 Aug 2026 – IGC Writing Retreat – Wattwiller, France
- 2/3/4 & 7/8 Sept 2026 – Artificial Intelligence, Deep Learning & Healthcare – Online
- 14–18 Sept 2026 – Causal Inference for Population Health Sciences – Allschwil
- 24 Sept 2026 – A Practical Guide on how to Submit Review and Get your Paper Published in Public Health Journals – Online

For further details, please visit the [Course Program & More Info](#).

SSPH+ EVENTS

Two Weeks Left to Register for the 35th SSPH+ Lugano Summer School (LSS) 2026

17–22 August 2026 | Lugano & online

There are **only two weeks left** to enrol in the SSPH+ LSS in Public Health Policy, Economics, and Management 2026 (17-22 August). Registration closes on July 15.

Join us in Lugano or online for our **35th edition**, held in a unique setting where public health meets real-world impact. Learn from leading experts while connecting with a global network of public health professionals, researchers, and students.

Each highly interactive course focuses on **mutual learning for change** and aims to bridge the gap between public health theory and practice. Courses are led by experienced facilitators who have worked in diverse settings across high-, middle-, and low-income countries. Explore the full course programme [here](#).

The programme is further enriched by plenary sessions, exchange opportunities, and networking events. Expect engaging discussions, inspiring exchanges, meaningful new connections, and, of course, a lot of fun along the way!

Discounts are available for participants from lower- and upper-middle-income countries, Master's and PhD students, and students/employees from the LSS partner institutions (USI, SUPSI, Swiss TPH, and SSPH+). Learn more [here](#).



**SSPH+ LUGANO
SUMMER SCHOOL**
 IN PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY, ECONOMICS,
 AND MANAGEMENT
 35TH EDITION
17-22 AUGUST 2026
 IN LUGANO AND ONLINE


Swiss Public Health Conference (SPHC) 2026 – Registration open

2–3 September 2026 | University of Lucerne

[Register by 30 June 2026 to get an early-bird discount!](#)

The Swiss Public Health Conference 2026 embraces complexity as a strength rather than a challenge. The conference highlights contributions that examine how social values, cultural narratives, and structural conditions shape health, and how they may open



**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
UNTIL 30 JUNE 2026**
**Swiss Public Health
Conference 2026**
**«Public Health and
the Beauty of
Complexity»**
 Health is complex, and it is precisely
 in this complexity that its beauty lies
 A dialogue between research and practice across science, society, and the humanities
2–3 September 2026, University of Lucerne

new pathways toward justice, prevention, and participation. Join us to explore new perspectives, develop bold ideas, and get powerful impulses for a healthy, just, and sustainable society!

Students and PhD candidates benefit from a discounted registration fee of CHF 100 for one or both days.

SSPH+ CALLS

SSPH+ Journals Open Calls

New SSPH+ Journals call on the theme of the 2027 Swiss Public Health Conference

- [The Future of Health Professions: Investigating Skills, Norms and Infrastructures](#).
Manuscript deadline: 30 November 2026

Other Open SSPH+ Journals Calls

- [Urban Health in Transition: Advancing Evidence and Policy for Healthier Cities](#) - Manuscript
Deadline: 31 July 2026
- [The effects of wine in moderation in the context of Mediterranean or other healthy diets](#) -
Manuscript Deadline: 31 July 2026
- [Metrics of One Health](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 30 September 2026
- [Armed Conflicts, Wars and Mental Health](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 31 Oct 2026
- [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) and Public Health](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 31 Dec 2026
- [Public Health Diplomacy in a Complex World](#) - Manuscript Deadline 31 Dec 2026
- [Strengthening the Public Health Response to Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes](#) -
Manuscript Deadline: 15 January 2027

APC support for SSPH+ Affiliates

The International Journal of Public Health ([IJPH](#)) and Public Health Reviews ([PHR](#)) offer APC discounts for SSPH+ Affiliates. Manuscripts submitted during 2026 with successful peer-review and with at least one author affiliated with SSPH+ (at the time of submission) will receive a **50% APC discount**. You must complete an **APC support application form at submission for either IJPH or PHR to apply for the discount**. Find more information and the procedure [here](#).

Invitation to Support Poster Evaluation at the Geneva Health Forum

The Geneva Health Forum (GHF) has invited SSPH+ members to support the evaluation of conference posters at the upcoming edition of the forum. Representatives with expertise in public health education and research would contribute to assessing poster presentations and ensuring their quality. Evaluation procedures and criteria will be shared in advance. If you are interested, please contact: Asmae Ayyar, GHF Scientific Coordinator at Asmae.Ayyar@unige.ch.

SSPH+ PARTNER COURSES AND EVENTS

Symposium - Education Initiative on Unconscious Bias in Health Care

01 September 2026 | 09:30 - 16:30 | University of Bern

This symposium marks the conclusion of a collaborative SSPH+ funded project led by ZHAW, Swiss TPH/University of Basel, and Unisanté/University of Lausanne. The event will explore how unconscious bias can be effectively integrated into health professions education, showcase initiatives from across Switzerland. Registration is open until 31 July. More info [here](#).

Lecture Series: 40 Years of the Ottawa Charter in Switzerland – Health Promotion in Transition

Gesundheitskompetenz als Schlüsselressource: Grundlagen, Bedeutung, Strategien

Donnerstag, 24. September 2026 | 12.00 - 13.00 Uhr | online

- *Elena Alder & Anna-Sophie Beese, Careum*
- *Reiser Simone & Nicole Gysin, Schuldenprävention Zürich*
- *Alexandra Papastefanou, Kanton Vaud*

Health Promotion in the Anthropocene: How to advance planetary health in times of ecological collapse?

Dienstag, 27. Oktober 2026 | 12.00 - 13.00 Uhr | online

- Bea Albermann, Universität Basel
- Andrea Bärlocher & Andrea Glässel, ZHAW

Professionalisierung in der Gesundheitsförderung: Ausbildungswege im Wandel

Mittwoch, 25. November 2026 | 12.00 - 13.00 Uhr | online

- Karin Nordström & Verena Biehl & Alice Inauen, ZHAW
- Settimio Monteverde & Julia Rehmann, BFH

SSPH+, together with the Special Interest Group on Health Promotion and Prevention of [Public Health Schweiz](#) and [Gesundheitsförderung Schweiz](#) is organizing an online public lecture series. Participation is free of charge. [Further information and registration here.](#)

From Knowledge to Impact: Transformational Learning in Global Health

09 September 2026 | Swiss TPH

Swiss TPH and tropEd Hybrid Symposium: “[From Knowledge to Impact: Transformational Learning in Global Health](#)” will address how geopolitical changes and emerging trends influence the competencies required in global public health, as well as how education and collaboration can best prepare current and future professionals.

Advancing Health Equity in Learning Health Systems

7–11 September 2026 | the University of Lucerne & online | Deadline: 10 August 2026

Join and explore health equity in Learning Health Systems through interactive sessions, community engagement, and practical tools for research, policy, and practice. This five-day doctoral course is open to doctoral/postdoctoral researchers from the University of Lucerne, SSPH+, University of Bern, and external applicants. More info [here](#).

Save the date - Upcoming LIFE events

17 September 2026 | University of Lucerne

Two LIFE events will take place at the University of Lucerne (free of charge):

- **LIFE B. Braun Lecture** (12:15–13:15) by Marco D’Angelo, Vice Director and Head of Health and Social Affairs at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office, on “Information flows in the Swiss healthcare system: the interplay of actors and processes. Perspectives for integrating functioning as a third health indicator.”
- **LIFE Forum Rehabilitation** (14:00–17:30, followed by a networking apéro) on “Functioning as a key health indicator – opportunities for practice, policy, and research.” The forum brings together experts from practice, research, and policy.

Upcoming SAMW symposium: *“Welche Entscheidungen für das Schweizer Gesundheitssystem?”*

24 September 2026 | [Eventforum Bern](#)

The Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences (SAMW) invites to a symposium on decision-making in the Swiss healthcare system, focusing on how to manage increasing needs in a context of limited resources. The event brings together perspectives from policy, ethics, and healthcare practice. Further program details and registration is available [here](#).

Swiss Forum for the Ecological Transformation of the Healthcare System

17 November 2026 | Lausanne

[The ETHICH Consortium](#) is pleased to announce the next Swiss Forum for the Ecological Transformation of the Healthcare System. Registration opens in early June, with key dates and details available on the [website](#).

2nd Zurich Population Research Conference 2027

1-2 February 2026 | Zurich

[The 2nd Population Research Conference](#) will focus on “New Challenges and Solutions in Population Research,” bringing together scholars to discuss how demographic research is adapting to rapid societal, technological, and methodological change. Key topics include digital data, AI, ethical issues, participation gaps, and global population shifts.

Let's Connect!

Stay connected with us for more updates and insights: [LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

Are you hiring or organizing an event relevant to our community? We would love to help you spread the word – contact us at info@ssphplus.ch.