Revision of the Law of Epidemics: Consultation Process of SSPH+

Background and general procedure

The revision of the Law of Epidemics has been given into consultation ("Vernehmlassung", documents available here) with a deadline until March 22, 2024. Because the revision is large and several groups and organizations in the public health sphere plan to submit a response, the SSPH+ Directorate has decided to focus on five high-level topics (see below) that best reflect the expertise of our community. By sharing the resulting “text blocks” we hope to contribute towards harmonizing the Public Health Community consultation response and to provide critical expertise. To this end, the SSPH+ Directorate has reached out to other members who also plan to write a consultation and to exchange the results.

Focus of the SSPH+ review

SSPH+ intends to critically review the following specific articles

Articles regarding Vaccination (lead Christoph Berger): 20, 21, 21a, 24, 24a

Articles regarding Financing (lead Luca Crivelli): 50, 50a, 51, 51a, 52, 70a, 70b, 70c, 70e, 70f, 74, 74a, 74b, 74c, 74d, 74e, 74g

Articles regarding Surveillance (lead Arnaud Chiolero): 11, 12, 12a, 13, 13a, 15, 15a, 15b, 16, 17, 19, 19a, 33, 47, 53, 60c, 80

Articles regarding Global Health (lead Antoine Flahault): 41, 43, 54, 80, 81a

Articles regarding Digitalization (lead Viktor von Wyl): 24, 49b, 58, 59, 60, 60a, 60b, 60c, 60d, 62a, 69, 70d, 74f, 74h, 80 (and Q4 in Word Template)

(work groups are free to comment on additional articles if they deem necessary)

Procedures and timelines

1. The consultation process within SSPH+ will be organized by working group chairs who invite selected SSPH+ experts to write a first draft in English. (Deadline February 19)
2. The SSPH+ community will then be invited to provide further comments on the statement drafts. (Deadline February 26)
3. Once we have received all the comments, the statements will then be reviewed and combined by the SSPH+ Back Office and Directorate as well as the translation into the national languages is organized. (Deadline March 5)
4. The SSPH+ statement (in national languages) is shared with the Public Health Community and interested parties and submitted to the Swiss Confederation (Deadline March 22)

In case of questions do not hesitate to contact Sandra Nocera (snocera@ssphplus.ch) or Viktor von Wyl (viktor.vonwyl@uzh.ch).

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