

in collaboration with

# Causal Interpretation in Association Studies: A Critical Review

<b>Facilitator</b>	Dr. Jordyn Wallenborn, PhD, MPH Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, University of Basel
<b>Description</b>	In many epidemiologic studies, you often find causal language when describing association results. Appropriate presentation of non-causal studies is critical when communicating research findings. We will discuss and critique 2 articles, focusing on causal interpretation in association studies. Students participate in critiquing the articles for additional epidemiological issues (e.g. study design, analysis, writing, sampling) relevant to causation. Furthermore, we will focus on appropriate presentation of non-causal results.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Critical review of result interpretation in public health, epidemiology, and biomedical studies</li><li>2. Basic introduction to causation and association in epidemiology</li><li>3. Develop basic knowledge and be able to describe the importance of accurate communication and reporting of results from association studies</li></ol>
<b>Date</b>	<b>9 January 2024, 15:00-17:00</b>
<b>Level</b>	Introductory course. Participants must have basic knowledge of biostatistics and research methodology.
<b>Eligibility</b>	The course is open to PhD students of the SSPH+ Inter-university Graduate Campus
<b>Course Structure</b>	2 hour online course, consisting of lecture and presentation, and an interactive group session where course participants will critique peer-

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reviewed article, with a specific focus on causal language in epidemiologic methods and result interpretation.  
Reading materials and resources will be provided in advance.

<b>Work load</b>	Preliminary Work: 0-2 h; Contact time: 2 h; Wrap-Up Work: 0-2 h
<b>Credits</b>	(1 ECTS for active participation in 4 2h-online courses and 1 passed assessment in 1 course)
<b>Assessment</b>	(voluntary)
<b>Location</b>	Online course on zoom
<b>Course Fees</b>	SSPH+ PhD Students: o.- CHF
<b>Registration</b>	<a href="https://www.conftool.com/ssph-phd-courses2024/">https://www.conftool.com/ssph-phd-courses2024/</a>
<b>Deadline for registration</b>	9 December 2023

This course is an SSPH+ IGC initiative to provide post-doctoral scientists at SSPH+ network institutions to teach.