

PhD in Clinical Research & Clinical Career at the University Children`s Hospital, Inselspital Bern

This is a call for a PhD candidate motivated for clinical research with children and adolescents in a shared appointment (50:50 model) with a clinical position at the Kinderklinik, Inselspital Bern.

Your main PhD objective will be to investigate nutritional drivers for excessive weight gain and to identify biomarkers or measures for obesity-related adverse health effects including cardiovascular, respiratory and metabolic disorders.

Experience in general pediatrics / internal medicine (1-2 years) is helpful but not required.

Description:

Shared clinical and research position (50:50) at the Kinderspital, Inselspital Bern.

Clinical position:

- 50% clinical work at inpatient wards and outpatient clinics at the University Children`s Hospital, Inselspital Bern.

Research position:

- Recruitment of research participants / establishing a clinical cohort study with children and adolescents 6-16 years with obesity (BMI >97th P) and a control group with normal BMI
- Collecting data on anthropometry, demography, physical activity, nutrition, cardiovascular risk factors (CVRF) and arterial stiffness (AS), lung function (LF), liver stiffness (LS) and biosamples (blood and stool to be biobanked for later batch analysis)
- Attending courses in statistics, scientific writing and epidemiology
- Fulfill criteria as per the Graduate School for Health Sciences (GHS)

Research aims (uncompleted list, subject to discussion / interests):

- Analyzing differences in macronutrient composition between children and adolescents with obesity versus controls with normal BMI.
- To test for associations between macronutrient composition with obesity-related cardiometabolic risk factors (e.g., blood pressure, lipid profiles)
- To test for associations between weight status and systemic low-level inflammation and between inflammation and obesity-related cardiometabolic risk factors

Research output:

- To publish original research articles in highly ranked peer-reviewed international research journals as per criteria by the GHS

Opportunities:

- Starting a clinical and research career simultaneously
- Gaining profound knowledge in clinical research including conceptualization, participants recruitment, data collection and analyzing, manuscript drafting and publishing
- Establishing the first cohort of children and adolescents with obesity and normal BMI in Switzerland
- Connecting with an established international research network with opportunities for further large-scale research projects abroad

Contact:

If interested send a letter of motivation and CV to christoph.saner@insel.ch

Dr. med. Christoph Saner, PhD
FMH Pädiatrie & Pädiatrische Endokrinologie
Universitätsklinik, Inselspital Bern
T: 031 632 95 52
E: christoph.saner@insel.ch
Honorary Research Fellow
Murdoch Children`s Research Institute
Parkville, Australia
E: christoph.saner@mcri.edu.au