

# Annual Report 2023

## Graduate School for Health Sciences

Faculty of Medicine  
Faculty of Human Sciences  
Vetsuisse Faculty



GHS Symposium 2023

*Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being,  
and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.*

**World Health Organization (WHO)**

# GHS Annual Report 2023

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# Introduction

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It is my pleasure to share with you some milestones and highlights from 2023 at the Graduate School for Health Sciences (GHS).

In February 2023, we enacted the new GHS regulations, and the first cohort of students enrolled under these updated guidelines in May 2023. The development of these regulations was a long process, bringing important innovations: First, the Faculty of Vetsuisse has joined the GHS. Second, we can now enrol students with a Master's degree from Universities of Applied Sciences. Third, the procedures for thesis evaluation and defense exams have been updated to the most advanced standards for quality in PhD supervision. The GHS office successfully and smoothly implemented all new procedures, promptly communicating them to students, experts, and supervisors.

2023 also marked the beginning of the 'Bridge Commission's' activities, which manage and maintain the new acceptance criteria for master's students from Universities of Applied Sciences. You can find a more detailed description of these initiatives in the following sections of this report.

The year also brought changes to the composition of the GHS Steering Board. With the implementation of the new regulations, the GHS was enriched with the Vetsuisse Bern faculty as the third faculty in the GHS group. Consequently, the steering board was complemented with Prof. Salome Dürr and Prof. Adrian Steiner as representatives of the Vetsuisse Faculty. The recruitment of new members for the expert committees from the Vetsuisse Faculty is still in process. On behalf of the Steering Board, we express our sincerest welcome. The Vetsuisse Faculty brings fresh insights and a broader perspective on health science topics.

The remarkable growth of PhD students we have observed since 2019 continued in 2023. We accepted 50 new PhD candidates, bringing our total to 184 enrolled PhD candidates. This represents more than a threefold increase from 2018 to 2023. Additionally, the number of graduations doubled compared to previous years, with 32 graduations in 2023. The scientific output of GHS

PhD candidates resulted in 137 peer-reviewed publications registered in BORIS.

The GHS symposium, the annual highlight of our graduate school, was held at the Studienzentrum Gerzensee. Once again, we received enthusiastic feedback from students and GHS members. The symposium brings together students and supervisors and offers a unique frame for exchange, scientific networking, and practicing presentations at a very high level. The theme for the symposium in 2023 was related to the philosophy of science, with innovative and engaging presentations from two experts in the field: Prof. Saana Jukola and Prof. Jacob Stegenga. We already look forward to welcoming you to our next symposium, which will take place at the same beautiful location on October 31 - November 1, 2024.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the GHS office for their tireless work for the students and the GHS members, to the Executive Board of the GHS, the expert commissions, and the Faculties of Medicine, Human Sciences, and Vetsuisse for their continuous engagement and support. Last but not least, all the PhD Supervisors are indispensable in securing the quality and high standards of our work. All personal efforts and sustainable support are instrumental in running the GHS and ensuring the high standards of our program.

In conclusion, 2023 was another intense and successful year for GHS. To get an overview of our activities and accomplishments in 2023, I invite you to read this annual report.

Warm regards,



Prof. Dr. phil. Sissel Guttormsen

President GHS Steering Board Committee

Bern, July 2024



GHS Symposium 2023

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# Highlights

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## Remarkable Growth and Enrollment

From the end of 2018 to 2023, the Graduate School of Health Sciences (GHS) witnessed an astounding 223% increase in enrollment, culminating in a total of 184 students in 2023. This exceptional growth can be attributed to several key factors described below.

## Diversification and Innovation in Research

GHS has broadened its research areas by incorporating experts from diverse fields, such as dentistry and pharmacy particularly evident in Expert Committee I. This diversification has enhanced the breadth and depth of our research endeavors.

## Unique Clinical Sciences Specialization

Thanks to the innovative 50:50 model promoted by the relatively young Expert Committee III, the Clinical Sciences specialization continues to attract significant interest. This model, unique in Switzerland, offers a dual career path in clinical research and practice, providing an unprecedented opportunity for our PhD candidates.

## Support and Satisfaction

The quality of our PhD programs, coupled with solid administrative support and financial aid, has consistently met the expectations of our students, experts, and supervisors, as revealed from the self-assessment of the GHS.

## New regulations: Expansion and Inclusivity

New regulations, enacted in February 2023, are in effect only for students who applied after that date, ensuring a smooth transition for those already enrolled.

One of the most significant innovations introduced with the new regulations is the inclusion of the

Vetsuisse Faculty into the GHS, alongside the Faculties of Medicine and Human Sciences. This addition further expands and enriches our academic community.

Additionally, students with a Master's degree from Universities of Applied Sciences can now join GHS. To bridge the different types of knowledge from these master's programs, we have established a new Bridge Commission (see the appropriate section).

## Academic Achievements

The number of graduations reached a new record in 2023, with 32 graduates compared to 17 in the previous year. Additionally, 2023 was a prolific year for publications, with 137 articles published by GHS students, as recorded in BORIS.

## Growth of Expert Committees

Along with the increase in student numbers, the number of experts in the three Expert Committees has also grown - from 26 in January 2019 to 47 in 2023 (an 80% increase). During the same period, the proportion of women in the Expert Committees rose from 23% to 47%.

## Successful Symposium and Student Representation

The 2023 GHS Symposium, held at Studienzentrum Gerzensee in November, was a resounding success, attracting enthusiastic participation from students and GHS members. Additionally, three student representatives, one from each Expert Committee, were elected to the Steering Board during the Symposium. This initiative allows students to contribute directly to the GHS and ensures their perspectives are considered in strategic decisions, fostering a more inclusive and responsive academic environment.

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## New GHS Committee members

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In 2023 the GHS welcomed nine new Expert Committee (FK) members and two new Steering Board members:

Prof. Dr. med. vet. Adrian Steiner (Member of the Steering Board)  
Ruminant Clinic, Department of Clinical Veterinary Science

Prof. Dr. med. vet. Salome Dürr (Member of the Steering Board)  
Multidisciplinary Center for Infectious Diseases (MCID)

Prof. Dr. med. vet. Mireille Meylan (Expert Committee I / FK I)  
Ruminant Clinic, Department of Clinical Veterinary Science

Prof. Dr. med. Sebastian Grunt (Expert Committee II / FK II)  
University Children`s Hospital

PD Dr. med. Dr. phil. Markus Schmidt (Expert Committee II / FK II)  
University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Neurology

Prof. Dr. Eva Segelov (Expert Committee III / FK III)  
Department of Clinical Research (DCR)

PD Dr. med. Georgios Siontis (Expert Committee III / FK III)  
University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Cardiology.

Prof. Dr. med. vet. Vinzenz Gerber (Expert Committee III / FK III)  
ISME Bern und Avenches, Department of Clinical Veterinary Science

Prof. Dr. med. vet. Torsten Seuberlich (Expert Committee III / FK III)  
Clinical Neuroscience Bern, Division of Neurological Sciences / Division of Experimental Clinical Research

Prof. Dr. phil. Iris-Katharina Penner (Expert Committee III / FK III)  
University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Neurology

Prof. Dr. med. David Julian Seiffge (Expert Committee III / FK III)  
University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Neurology.



GHS Symposium 2023

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## Vision and Mission

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### **Vision**

PhD students at the GHS have best conditions and support to advance their knowledge and research competencies in a health science related topic.

### **Mission**

The PhD program promotes and offers scientifically oriented courses in combination with clinical, experimental, and translational research, ensuring integrity and stimulating students to work responsibly and independently in the pursuit of in-depth knowledge.

From these statements, strategic goals and foci have been inferred, that guide the work of the GHS on all levels:

### **Promote Excellence, Quality, and Integrity**

Guide and prepare doctoral students to deepen knowledge, become competent & successful researchers, ensuring integrity in training and research, in line with ethical principles applied to health sciences and to

achieve an internationally recognized and competitive PhD title.

### **Foster a solid and advanced knowledge on global health issues**

Provide a program that encourages doctoral students to expand their knowledge beyond their specific research training through interdisciplinary courses, content, and methods in the field of health sciences.

### **Support and Develop**

Support doctoral students throughout their PhD program, ensuring the best supervision and structure and motivate them to become competent, qualified, and innovative professionals who will contribute to the improvement of health. PhD candidates are supported in building networks within and outside of their PhD group.



GHS Symposium 2023

## GHS Organization

### Multidisciplinarity

The Graduate School for Health Sciences (GHS) implements its vision and mission by offering an attractive study and supervision program. Our PhD program supports candidates in meeting all requirements, particularly those related to admissions, coursework, and publication expectations. Additionally, GHS promotes a lively exchange of ideas among our students. As an interfaculty and truly multidisciplinary graduate school, GHS leverages the strengths of diverse paradigms and methodologies in health to enhance research and clinical interventions.

### Collaborative Program

The program is jointly organized by the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Human Sciences, and the Vetsuisse Faculty. It provides comprehensive and internationally recognized training in both the theory and practice of experimental research, alongside in-depth specialist knowledge in individually selected research areas. This training addresses questions rooted in both basic research and applied fields.

### Strategic Leadership

Strategic management of GHS is provided by a Steering Board with members from the participating

faculties and expert committees. There are three expert committees, each covering a broad spectrum of research approaches and methods: **Individual Factors, Public Health and Methodologies for Health Sciences Research** (Expert Committee I), **Neurosciences** (Expert Committee II), and **Clinical Sciences** (Expert Committee III). These committees are also responsible for the admission, guidance, and evaluation of PhD candidates.

### Academic Support

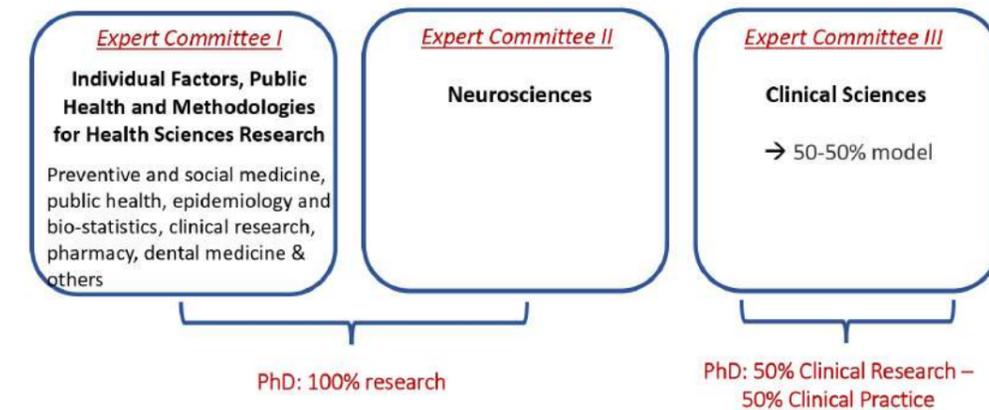
With access to an extensive body of academic experts and resources, GHS students develop into highly qualified professionals, researchers, and academics, ready to apply their knowledge and skills in complex subjects within their chosen areas. In 2023, 282 academic experts (thesis advisors and co-thesis advisors) support our PhD candidates in their research endeavors.

### Operational Management

The GHS Office is directed by Coordinator Dr. Tullia Padovani, who oversees the operational organization. She is supported by the GHS steering board and office team, including Mette Borg Frees, Réka Molnár, and Fabian Nobrega Freitas.

### Expert Committees

Three expert committees and their respective research time dedication.

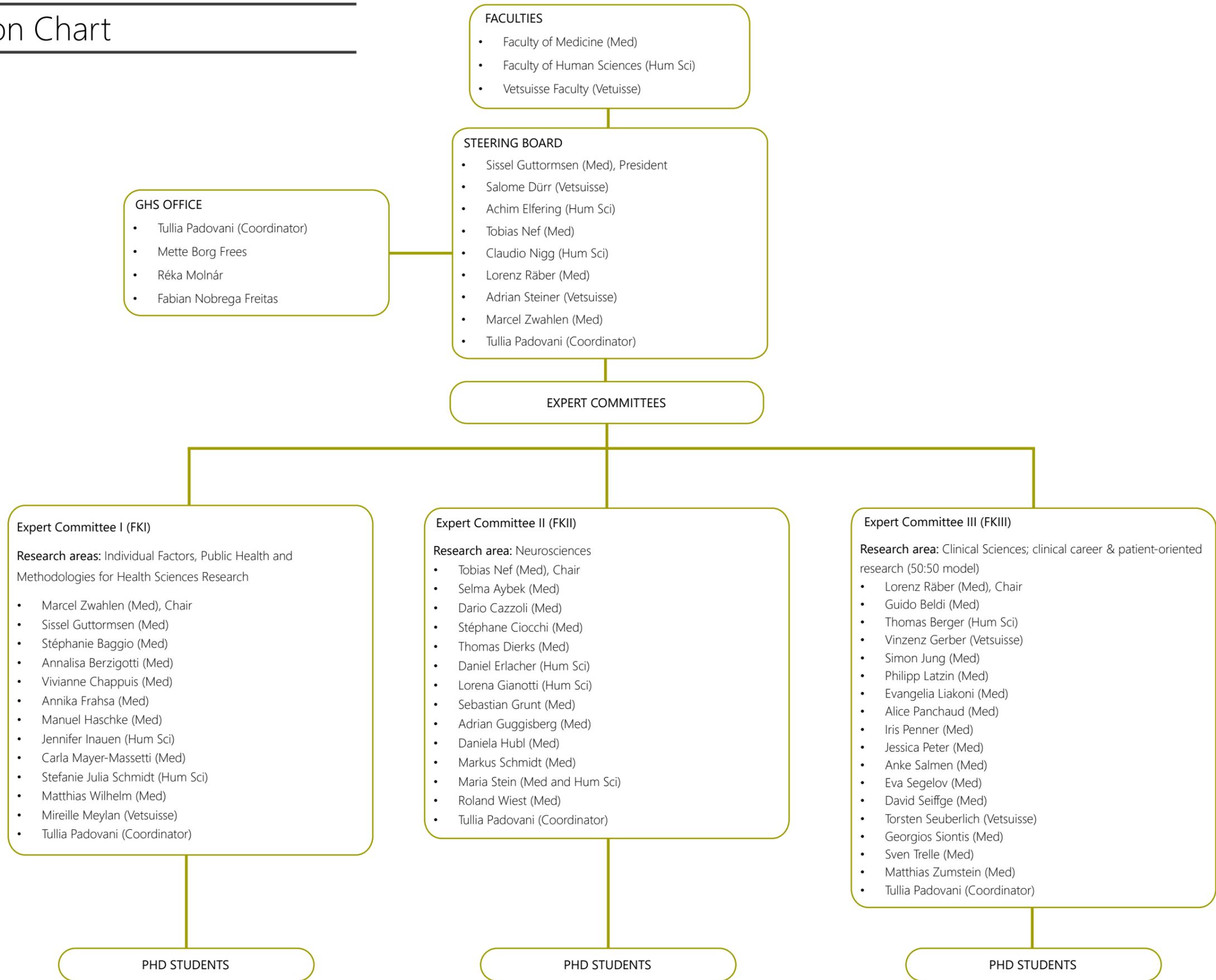


### Degree Awarded

The awarded PhD title is: PhD in Health Sciences (specialization).



# GHS Organization Chart



## Steering Board

The Graduate School is strategically managed by a Steering Board. The Steering Board is composed of two representatives each from the Faculty of Human Sciences, the Faculty of Medicine and the Vetsuisse Faculty, together with the Program Coordinator. Those representing the faculties are professors. At least one representative per faculty must be a member of the respective Faculty Council (Fakultätskollegium). Additional persons can be elected to sit on the Steering Board if the faculties concerned are in agreement.

The members of the Steering Board must be renowned scientists and are elected by the University Board of Directors for a period of office of four years, upon application by the faculties involved. They can be reappointed. The representatives of the Faculties on the Steering Board preside over the Board in turn.



Prof. Dr. phil. Sissel **GUTTORMSEN**

Director, Institute for Medical Education (IML)  
Founding President and Member since August 2008



Prof. Dr.  
Achim **ELFERING**

Work and Organizational  
Psychology, Institute of  
Psychology.

Member since August 2008.



Prof. Dr.  
Tobias **NEF**

Chair of Expert Committee II  
ARTORG Center for  
Bio-medical Engineering  
Research.

Member since August 2021.



Prof. Dr. phil.  
Claudio **NIGG**

Department of Health  
Science, Institute of Sport  
Science.

Member since January 2020.



Prof. Dr. med. vet.  
Salome **DÜRR**

Multidisciplinary Center for  
Infectious Diseases (MCID).

Member between February  
and December 2023.



Prof. Dr. med. Dr. phil. nat.  
Lorenz **RÄBER**

Chair of Expert Committee III  
University Hospital Inselspital  
Department of Cardiology.

Member since August 2021.



Prof. Dr.  
Marcel **ZWAHLEN**

Chair of Expert Committee I  
Director i.a. Institute of Social  
and Preventive Medicine  
(ISPM).

Member since August 2022.



Prof. Dr. med. vet.  
Adrian **STEINER**

Department of Clinical Veteri-  
nary Science, Ruminant Clinic.

Member since February 2023.



Dr. phil.  
Tullia **PADOVANI**

GHS Coordinator and Lecturer.

Member since January 2019.

## Expert Committees

PhD candidates (listed on the [GHS Website](#)) currently carrying out their research projects within the framework of the GHS are grouped by GHS Expert Committees (Fachkommissionen: FKI, FKII and FKIII):

- **Individual Factors, Public Health and Methodologies for Health Sciences Research (Expert Committee / FKI)**
- **Neurosciences (Expert Committee II / FKII)**
- **Clinical Sciences (Expert Committee III / FKIII)**

Each PhD candidate is assigned to one of the GHS Expert Committees. The committees are responsible for the admittance, guidance, and evaluation of the PhD candidates.

Expert Committee I / Fachkommission I / FKI		
Research Areas: Individual Factors, Public Health and Methodologies for Health Sciences Research		
Name	Affiliation	Institute
<b>Marcel Zwahlen</b>	<b>Faculty of Medicine</b>	<b>Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)</b>
Sissel Guttormsen	Faculty of Medicine	Institute for Medical Education
Stéphanie Baggio	Faculty of Medicine	Institute of Primary Health Care (BIHAM)
Annalisa Berzigotti	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department for Visceral Surgery and Medicine
Vivianne Chappuis	Faculty of Medicine	Institute of Dental Medicine (ZMK)
Annika Frahsa	Faculty of Medicine	Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)
Manuel Haschke	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of General Internal Medicine
Jennifer Inauen	Faculty of Human Sciences	Institute of Psychology
Carla Meyer-Massetti	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of General Internal Medicine
Mireille Meylan	Vetsuisse Faculty	Department of Clinical Veterinary Science
Stefanie Schmidt	Faculty of Human Sciences	Institute of Psychology
Matthias Wilhelm	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Cardiology
Tullia Padovani	GHS Coordinator	Graduate School for Health Sciences

Expert Committee II / Fachkommission II / FK II		
Research Areas: Neurosciences		
Name	Affiliation	Institute
<b>Tobias Nef</b>	<b>Faculty of Medicine</b>	<b>ARTORG Center for Biomedical Engineering Research</b>
Selma Aybek	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of Neurology
Dario Cazzoli	Faculty of Medicine	ARTORG Center for Biomedical Engineering Research
Stéphane Ciocchi	Faculty of Medicine	Department of Physiology
Thomas Dierks	Faculty of Medicine	Universitäre Psychiatrische Dienste (UPD)
Daniel Erlacher	Faculty of Human Sciences	Institute of Sport Science
Lorena Gianotti	Faculty of Human Sciences	Institute of Psychology
Sebastian Grunt	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital, Children's Hospital
Adrian Guggisberg	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of Neurology
Daniela Hubl	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy
Markus Schmidt	Faculty of Medicine	Department for BioMedical Research (DBMR)
Maria Stein	Faculty of Medicine & Faculty of Human Sciences	Institute of Psychology / Universitäre Psychiatrische Dienste (UPD)
Roland Wiest	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Neuroradiology
Tullia Padovani	GHS Coordinator	Graduate School for Health Sciences
Expert Committee III / Fachkommission III		
Research Areas: Clinical Sciences, clinical career and patient-oriented research (50:50 model)		
Name	Affiliation	Institute
<b>Lorenz Räber</b>	<b>Faculty of Medicine</b>	<b>University Hospital Inselspital Department of Cardiology</b>
Guido Beldi	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department for Visceral Surgery and Medicine
Thomas Berger	Faculty of Human Sciences	Institute of Psychology
Vinzenz Gerber	Vetsuisse Faculty	ISME Bern and Avenches, Department of Clinical Veterinary Science
Simon Jung	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of Neurology
Philipp Latzin	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of Pediatrics
Evangelia Liakoni	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of General Internal Medicine
Alice Panchaud	Faculty of Medicine	Institute of Primary Health Care (BIHAM)
Iris-Katharina Penner	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Neurology
Jessica Peter	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital of Old Age Psychiatry and Psychotherapy
Anke Salmen	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital Department of Neurology
David Seiffge	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Neurology
Eva Segelov	Faculty of Medicine	Department of Clinical Research (DCR)
Torsten Seuberlich	Vetsuisse Faculty	Division of Neurological Sciences, Department of Neurology
Georgios Siontis	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Cardiology
Sven Trelle	Faculty of Medicine	Clinical Trials Unit (CTU Bern)
Matthias Zumstein	Faculty of Medicine	University Hospital Inselspital, Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology
Tullia Padovani	GHS Coordinator	Graduate School for Health Sciences



GHS Symposium 2023

## Bridge Commission

### Introduction

The Bridge Commission (BC) was established to evaluate applications from candidates holding a Master's degree from a University of Applied Sciences (FH) or a University of Teacher Education (PH).

The BC develops individualized proposals to acquire the additional number of ECTS (European Credit Transfer) as foreseen from the new regulations (PR Art.8.3) and recommends how these additional requirements should be fulfilled. These proposals must be approved by the dean of the relevant faculty.

### Members of the Bridge Commission

- Marcel Zwahlen (MZ, Chair)
- Eva Cignacco (EC)
- Daniel Erlacher (DE)
- Stephan Reichenbach (SR)
- Tullia Padovani (TP, Coordinator)

### Application Requirements

Applicants from FH or PH must meet the following requirements:

1. The project topic must be health-related.
2. Supervision by the University of Bern or joint supervision by the University of Bern and the FH or PH.
3. FH or PH Master's degree with a minimal grade of 5.
4. FH or PH Master's degree with a minimum of 90 ECTS.
5. Additional required ECTS must be fulfilled during the regular PhD period.
6. Approval of the dean of the involved faculty.

These criteria were established during the Steering Board Meeting P-230426.

### Evaluation Process

The BC has outlined a detailed process for evaluating candidates, which includes assessing previous experience and determining additional ECTS requirements.

### Step-by-Step Evaluation

1. Checklist to verify the application requirements.
2. Determine Additional ECTS:  
Assess the candidate's profile to determine how many additional ECTS (30-60) are needed, in accordance with PR Art.8.3.
3. Recognize Prior Academic and Practical Experience  
Establish criteria for recognizing previous experience:
  - a. Publications:
    - First authorship of new studies: 5 ECTS
    - First authorship related to master's thesis: 3 ECTS
    - Second place co-authorship: 2 ECTS
    - Third place co-authorship: 1 ECTS
    - Last authorship: same as first authorship
  - b. Congress Participation:
    - ½ day attendance: 0.5 ECTS
    - One or more days of attendance: 1 ECTS

4. Request Additional Information:  
If necessary, ask candidates for more information about their past experience.
5. Final ECTS Assessment:  
Determine the final number of additional ECTS required.
6. Identify Educational Gaps:  
Evaluate if there are gaps in the candidate's education that need to be filled with specific courses.

### 7. Course List Submission:

Ask the candidate to provide a list of courses, agreed upon with their thesis advisor/supervision team, to fulfill the ECTS requirements. This list should be submitted before the next application deadline and included in the doctoral agreement.

### 8. GHS Interview:

Invite the candidate to the GHS interview as per the standard application procedure.

### 9. Approval of the Course List:

The Bridge Commission will approve the list of courses.

### 10. Dean's Approval:

Send the approved list to the dean of the involved faculties for final approval.

### Future Directions

The BC plans to refine and expand its criteria and processes as it gains more experience and evaluates more candidates. This iterative approach ensures that the BC remains responsive to the evolving educational landscape and the diverse backgrounds of its applicants.

# PhD Program

## Doctoral Program

The Graduate School for Health Sciences (GHS) offers research-oriented curricula on psychological and physiological factors that determine the health of individuals and groups in their social contexts and physical environments. The GHS in general focuses on patient-oriented clinical research that is carried out directly with patients or healthy volunteers. The doctoral degrees are jointly issued by the faculties involved after submission of the written thesis and successful defense of the thesis. As a rule, the PhD thesis must be submitted no later than one year after completion of the experimental work. The University regulations require enrollment until the successful completion of studies.

The PhD typically lasts 3 - 4 years (Expert Committees I and II) or 4 - 6 years (Expert Committee III).

## Supervision

Each PhD candidate is supervised by a thesis committee consisting of the thesis advisor and a co-referee. In addition, the candidates of the Expert Committee III have a mentor assigned, who also chairs the PhD defense. The candidates of the Expert Committees I and II choose a member of the Expert Committees as GHS Representative for chairing the PhD defense.

## Thesis Committee

The *thesis advisor* is responsible for the research project, adequate supervision, the laboratory infrastructure, and the salary of the candidate.

*Co-thesis advisor (optional)* can be appointed to support the thesis advisor. The co-thesis advisor is an expert within the field of the dissertation and is chosen by the thesis advisor.

*Co-referee* should be an expert in the research area of the thesis project but must not be affiliated with the same institute/department as the thesis advisor.

He/she meets with the candidate at least twice a year to discuss and assess progress of the thesis work, as well as advising and supporting the candidate. The co-referee is present at the exams and the thesis defense.

*Mentor (only FKIII)* guides the candidate on the tailor-made training program reported in the doctoral agreement and together with the thesis advisor, evaluates the progress report and chairs the defense exam. The mentor is also a mediator in case of conflicts within the thesis committee.

## Requirements

The training program requires at least 18.0 ECTS of learning credits, which can be obtained by participating in approved, project-related and interdisciplinary courses, workshops, conferences, seminars, and lectures.

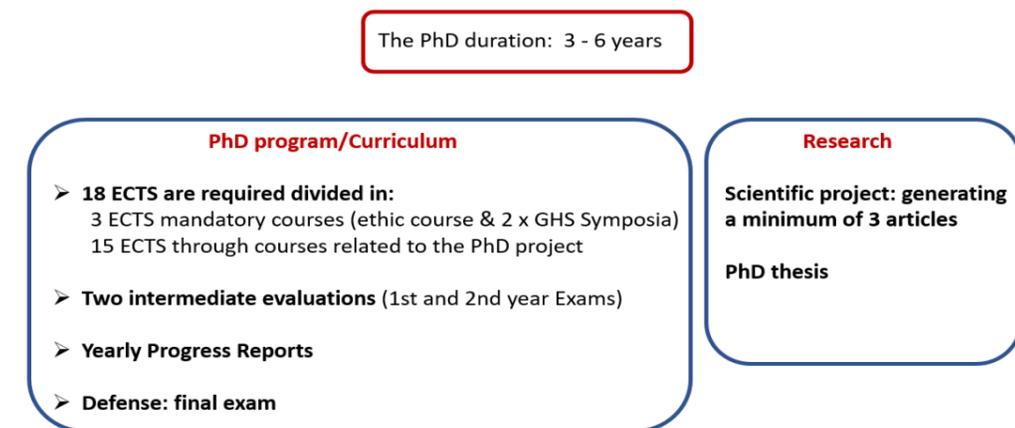
There are two required exams: A written exam after the first year on methodological aspects of the research project, and an oral exam at the end of the second year, where candidates present their work in a scientific seminar in the presence of the thesis committee, to document in-depth knowledge of the research field.

## Financial Support

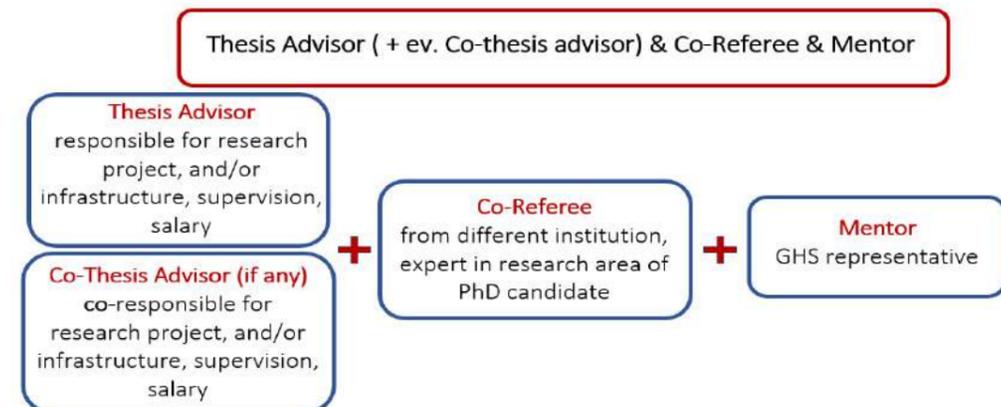
By granting a financial contribution, the GHS actively supports the participation of candidates in national and international conferences and in special training courses offered by recognized institutions in Switzerland and abroad.

# PhD Program Structure

## Overall demands for the candidates



## Thesis Committee



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## PhD Curriculum: Courses and conferences

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Seminars and courses are selected for each candidate individually from courses supported by GHS, from the teaching units of the faculties, and from courses offered by other Swiss or foreign universities. Some candidates also take part in internationally organized Summer Schools, which provide high quality training in specific fields. Active participation at meetings or conferences can be recognized as part of the PhD curriculum as well.

**18 ECTS credit points are necessary for the GHS PhD program. These ECTS include:**

- Mandatory Requirements (3 ECTS)
- Core Courses (2 to 4 ECTS)
- Method Skills (4 to 6 ECTS)
- Special Knowledge (including meetings and conferences) (min. 6 ECTS)

The [Course Catalog](#) lists suggestions for the different course categories. The Mandatory, Core, Methods and Special Knowledge Courses offered by the GHS are listed on the website. GHS recognizes external courses and meetings/conferences when they meet the requirements and can provide financial support in many cases.

### Curriculum

- Each PhD candidate compiles an individual curriculum based on qualifications and relevance to the research interests.
- Also courses and meetings/conferences not listed in the GHS Course Catalog can be selected upon agreement with the GHS Coordinator; they must involve active participation and be of minimum of 0.5 ECTS and on a 0.5 ECTS scale.
- The selection of courses and meetings/conferences should be documented in the Doctoral Agreement (DA).

### Mandatory Requirements

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Basics of Ethics in Health Sciences Research

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GHS Symposium: Poster presentation

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GHS Symposium: Oral presentation

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## Partner Programs

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### [The BENEFRI Neuroscience Program](#)

is a convention between the Universities of Bern and Fribourg and is available to GHS students. Its purpose is the organization of joint postgraduate courses and lectures for PhD students in Neuroscience at the two Universities. At the moment it includes the Faculty of Medicine in Bern and the Faculty of Science in Fribourg.

### [Courses offered by Lemanic Neuroscience Doctoral School \(LNDS\)](#)

The Lemanic Neuroscience Doctoral School (LNDS) organizes student training both in theoretical and experimental aspects of neuroscience.

### [Public Health Sciences Course Program \(University of Bern\)](#)

The Course Program is recommended to PhD students working on public health-related topics who want to get ready for a post-doc position in academia or an organization close to science. The Course Program is highly interdisciplinary, with scholars from several faculties contributing.

### [Transferable Skills \(University of Bern\)](#)

provide key qualifications for your academic and non-academic career through individual feedback from experts, intensive learning in small groups, and multidisciplinary networking. Transferable skills are competencies acquired in one context that can be applied to other contexts, jobs, positions, functions or fields of work.

### [Clinical Neuroscience Bern](#)

is an Interdisciplinary collaboration pivotal to success in clinical neuroscience research and methodology. The research focus of Clinical Neurosciences Bern aims to improve information exchanges and promote cooperation with internal and external partners.

### [The Graduate School for Cellular and Biomedical Sciences \(GCB\) \(University of Bern\)](#)

is jointly administered by the Faculties of Medicine, Science and Vetsuisse, and offers structured, experimental research training programs leading to a PhD, MD.PhD, or DVM.PhD degree.

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## MD-PhD Scholarships

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GHS doctoral students with a Master in Medicine may apply annually for the MD-PhD scholarships. The National MD-PhD Program, which is supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences (SAMS/SAMW), and several other foundations, awards scholarships every year to outstanding graduates in human medicine, veterinary medicine and dentistry with residency in Switzerland.

Students under the Expert Committee III (Clinical Sciences) are not eligible for the MD-PhD Scholarship since the minimum research time is 75%.

Further information can be found on the [SNSF](#) and [SAMS](#) websites.



Basics of Ethics Course Mittelstrasse 43

## Basics of Ethics in Health Sciences Research

### Course Overview

Basics of Ethics in Health Sciences Research Course is designed to offer foundational insights into ethical practices and the key tenets of scientific integrity in health sciences research. This 2-day mandatory course offering 1 ECTS for the GHS students has been one of the pillars of the GHS program for many years. Each year, however, brings new developments into the course and 2023 is not an exception. The program of this year's course was improved and adjusted according to the valuable feedback gathered from the 2022 course evaluation. Student feedback covering both the evaluation of the individual lecturers and the course content is a source for continuous improvement of the course.



Basics of Ethics Course Mittelstrasse 43

### Collaboration

The 2023 course was a collaborative effort involving multiple internal and external partners. Since the Basics of Ethics is also an integral part of the interdisciplinary Public Health Sciences Course Program, the internal partners, such as the administrative teams of the PHS, helped in the organization of the course, while external experts contributed to its design and content by bringing their specialized knowledge.

The course took place on May 11-12, 2023 and was facilitated by renowned experts in the field such as Dr. Priya Satalkar from the University of Basel and Ghent University, Prof. Verina Wild from the University of Augsburg, Dr. Agomoni Ganguli Mitra from the University of Edinburgh, PD Dr. Sven Trelle, from the University of Bern, Dr. Benjamin Speich, University Hospital Basel and Dr. Stefan Schandelmaier, University Hospital Basel.



Basics of Ethics Course Mittelstrasse 43

### Schedule Highlights

The module covered a wide range of topics, including the history and principles of ethics in clinical and public health research, scientific integrity, issues such as conflict of interest, authorship, research misconduct, and the Swiss human research law. The course also emphasized the fair utilization of research resources and the importance of open science.

**Day 1:** participants focused on the introduction to ethics and research ethics, with interactive sessions on health-related research regulation and practical case studies.

**Day 2:** delved into scientific integrity, fair authorship practices, and the push towards open science, complemented by a podcast on the Human Research Act.

### Course Feedback

Feedback from 23 participants highlighted the course's success in achieving its learning outcomes. Notably, 86.9% agreed that the course met its objectives and 78.2% agreed that the thematic interests and questions of the participants were addressed by the course. Moreover, 86.9% of the students expressed the opinion that the structure and the content of the course were supportive for their learning. The interactive nature of the course, active participation opportunities, and the balance between lectures and practical discussions were particularly appreciated by the students.

# New GHS regulations & Executive regulations (Ausführungsbestimmungen)

**Approval date:** November 2022

**Enactment date:** February; 2023

## Which regulations count for you?

Students who have applied to the GHS by May 1st, 2023 are enrolled in the GHS according to the new regulations.

All students enrolled before this date, including those who applied by the January 10th deadline, will conduct their PhD under the old regulations (Link to the regulations: [https://www.ghs.unibe.ch/phd\\_program/regulations/index\\_eng.html](https://www.ghs.unibe.ch/phd_program/regulations/index_eng.html)).

## Structure and hierarchy of the regulations

We have three levels of regulations Promotionsreglement (PR), Studienplan (SP) and Organisationsreglement (OR). In addition, there is an internal regulation approved by the GHS Steering Board called Ausführungsbestimmungen (AB).

## Old regulations and who is involved in the approval steps

	Bildung und Kulturdirektion (BKD)	Faculties	Unileitung	GHS Steering board
<b>Promotionsreglement (PR)</b> Since 15.09.2008 in power	X	X	X	X
<b>Studienplan (SP)</b> Since 01.09.2010 in power		X	X	X
<b>Organisationsreglement (OR)</b> Since 01.08.2008 in power		X	X	X
<b>Ausführungsbestimmungen</b> Last version in 2011				X

## Executive regulations (Ausführungsbestimmungen)

In a significant development, the GHS Steering Board has established a comprehensive set of new rules aimed at specifying certain regulations and procedures. The original document is available in [German](#), with an [English translation](#) also provided on our website.

This marks the first time the GHS has adopted executive regulations since its inception. These rules will be regularly updated as needed, and all students and members of the GHS will be promptly informed of any changes.

Here are the five most salient aspects extracted from the "Executive Regulations for the Degree Program and Study Plan of the Graduate School for Health Sciences at the University of Bern":

### 1. Duration of the Doctoral Degree (Art. 4):

- o The start date of the doctoral degree corresponds to the application date. This date is the reference point for all steps of the doctoral program.
- o Financial security for the PhD work period must be confirmed, with a minimum of 3 years for Expert Committees I and II, and at least 4 years for Expert Committee III.

### 2. Admission Procedure (Art. 7):

- o Self-funded doctoral students are allowed to apply, provided that their self-funding is declared and transparent.
- o The GHS evaluates such applications individually to ensure that no one is forced to self-finance.

### 3. Bridge Commission (Art. 8):

- o Evaluates applications from candidates with a Master's degree from Universities of Applied Sciences or Teacher Education.
- o Develops proposals for ECTS compensation and additional requirements to be approved by the dean.
- o Applicants must meet six specific requirements, including health-related project topics and supervision by the University of Bern.

### 4. Publication Rules (Study Plan Art. 12):

- o The Thesis Advisor, together with the doctoral student, is responsible for selecting journals.
- o Publications with first shared authorship count as half a publication with first authorship.
- o Reviews (systematic and narrative) with a systematic approach and explicit description of methods are accepted.
- o Non-systematic reviews, letters, and study protocols are not accepted.
- o These publication rules apply to doctoral students of both the new and old regulations.

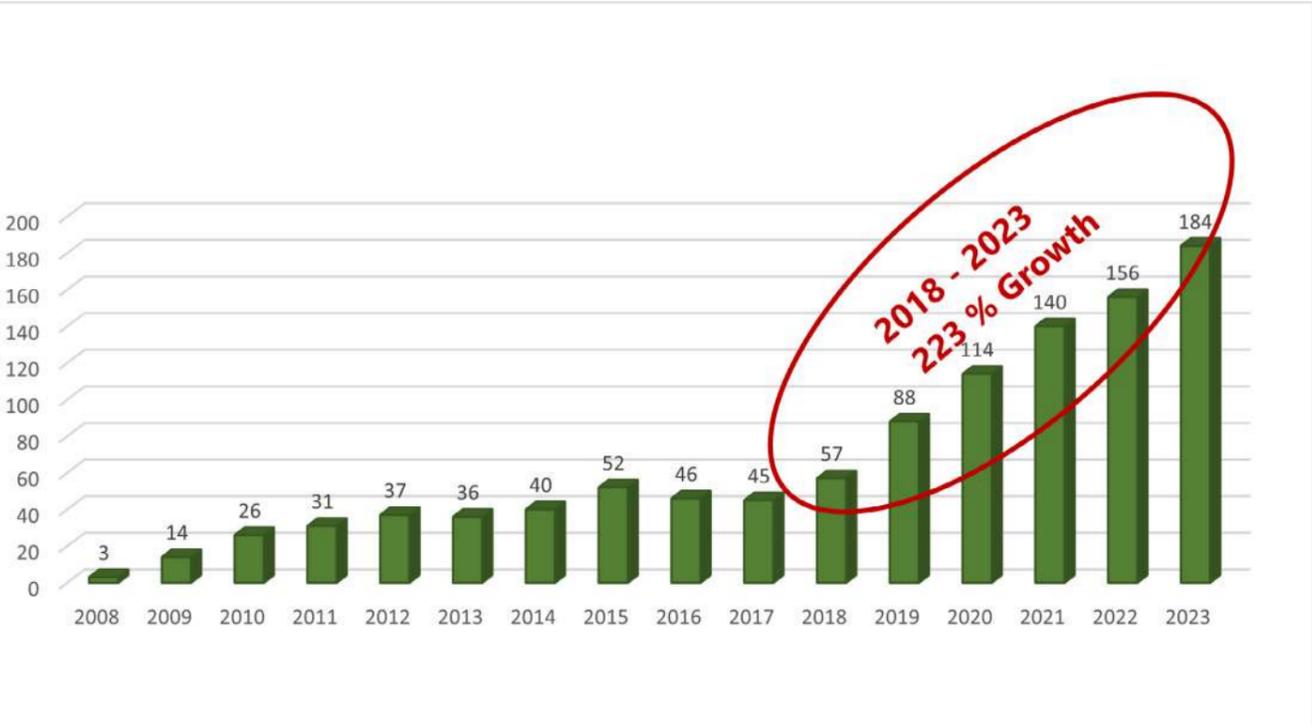
### 5. PhD Students Residing Abroad:

- o The GHS may accept applicants who conduct most of their research abroad, with specific on-site attendance requirements in Bern.
- o Requirements include attendance at the Symposium twice, participation in the ethics course, thesis defense, and first- and second-year examinations.

# Review: 2023 in numbers

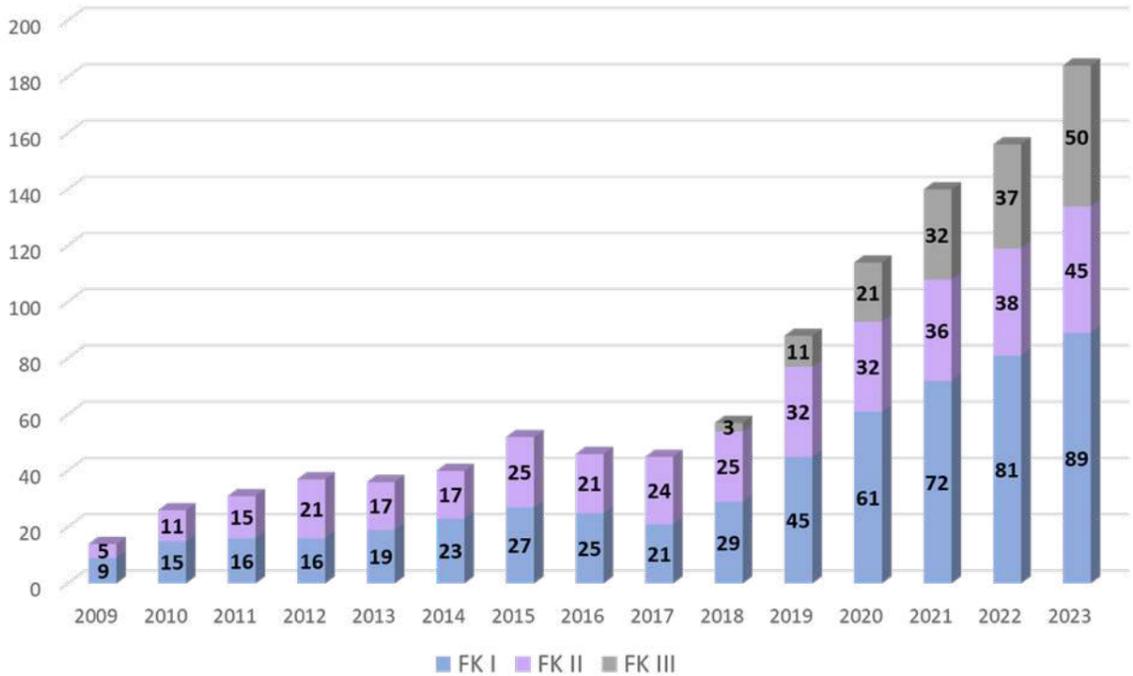
## Students

Growth in GHS Matriculations 2008 - 2023



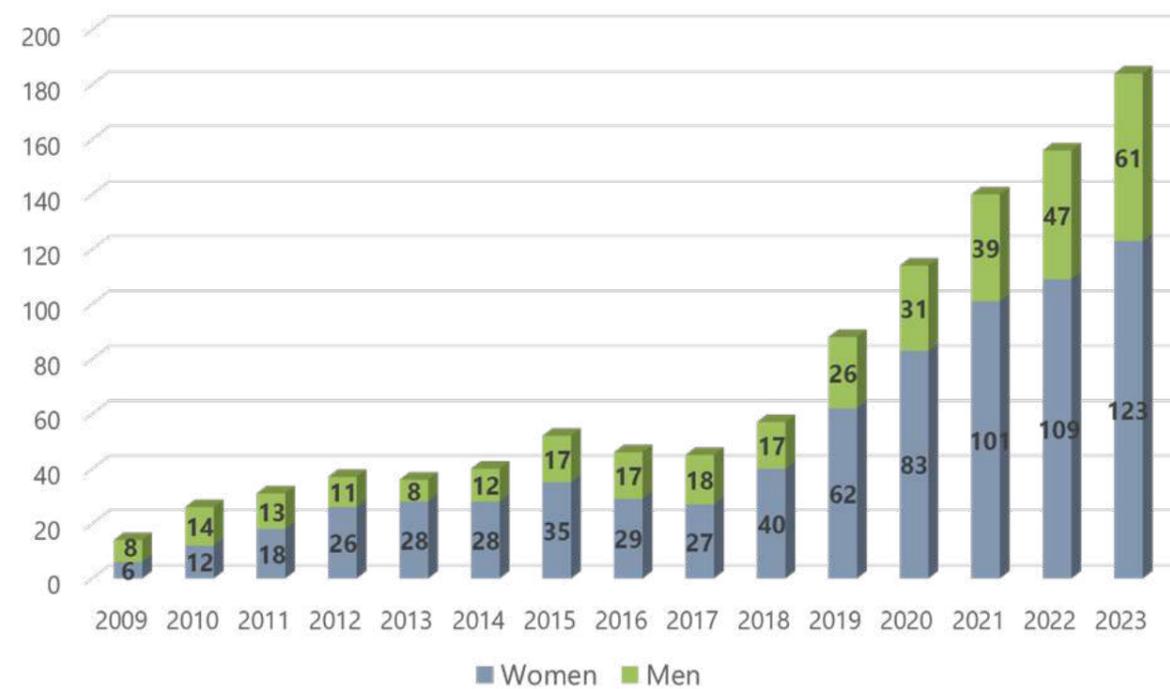
## Expert Committees

Student Distribution across Expert Committees 2008-2023



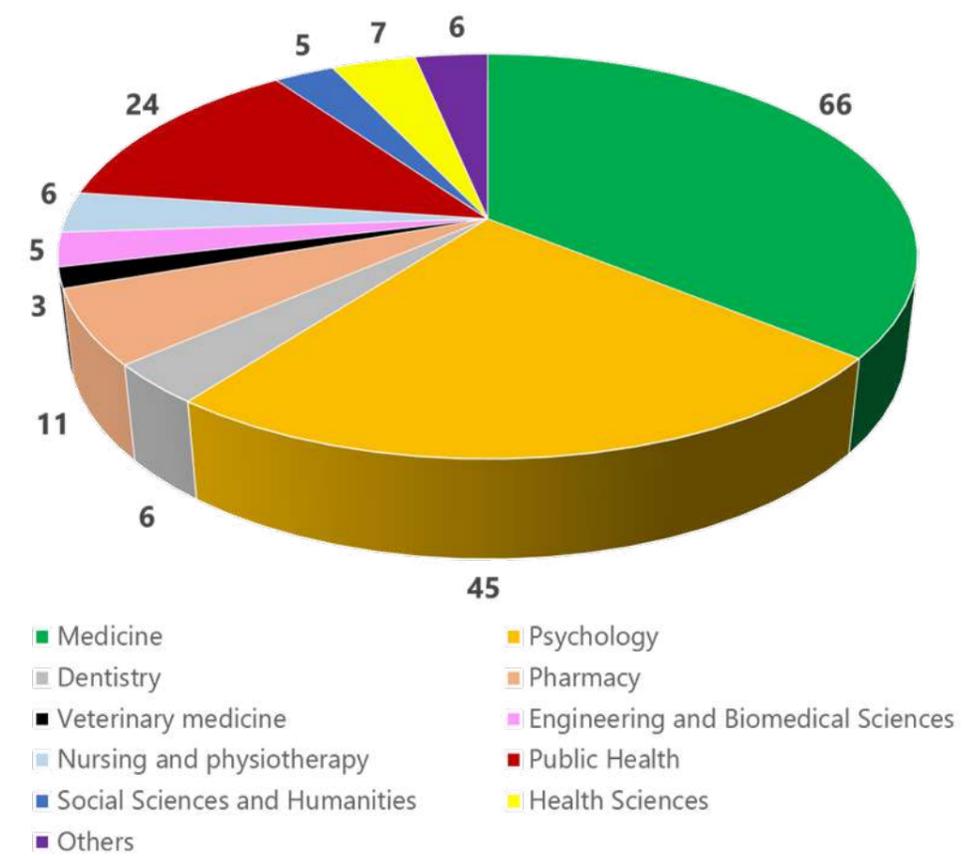
## Gender

Student Gender Distribution 2008 - 2023



## Field of Study

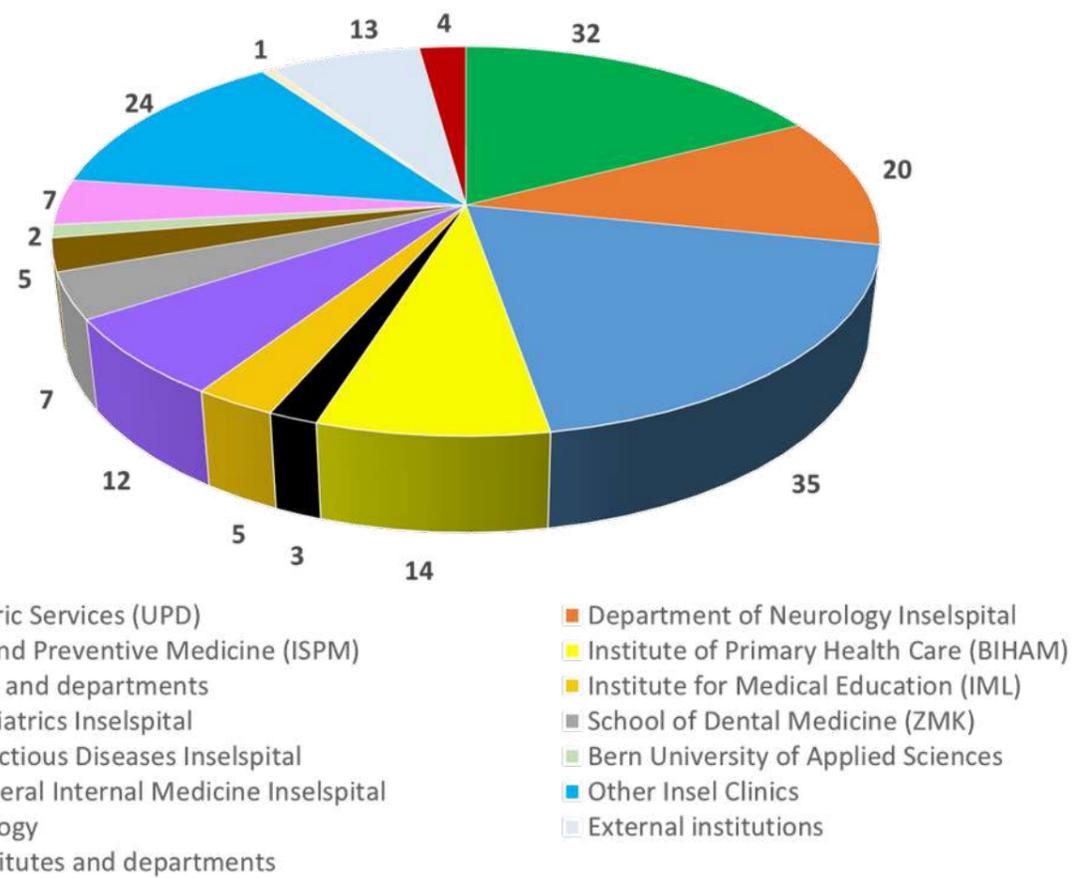
GHS Students – Master's Degree Fields of Study



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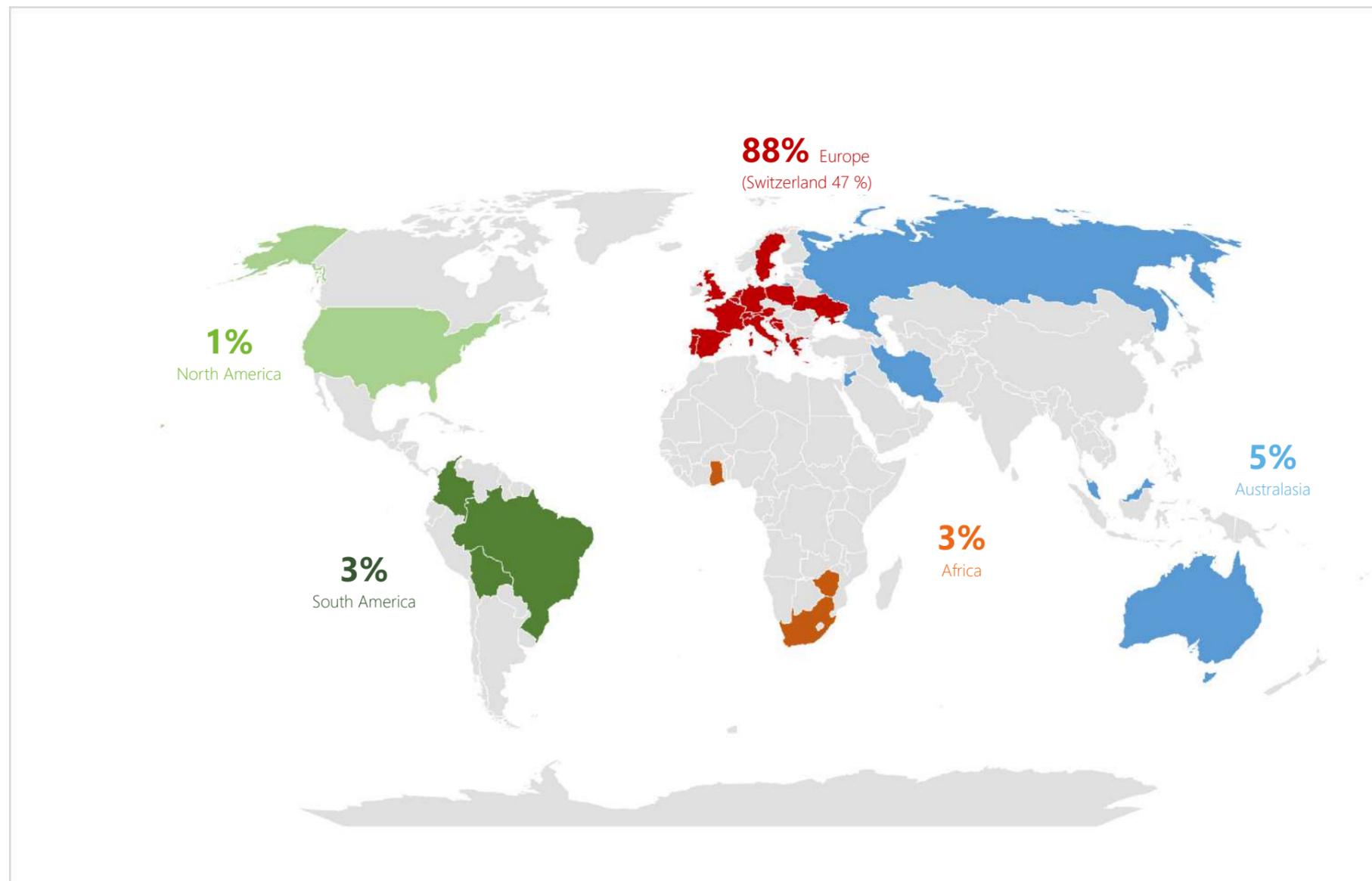
## Institutes and departments

GHS Students – Institutes and departments where research is performed



## Country of Master's Degree

The 2023 cohort of doctoral students in the GHS was made up of 184 students who obtained their master's degree from 29 different countries



<b>Europe</b>	
Albania	1
Austria	5
Belgium	2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1
Croatia	1
France	4
Germany	21
Greece	3
Italy	7
Netherlands	6
Poland	2
Portugal	2
Spain	3
Sweden	1
Switzerland	87
United Kingdom	15
Ukraine	1
<b>North America</b>	
United States	2
<b>South America</b>	
Bolivia	1
Brazil	3
Colombia	2
<b>Australasia</b>	
Australia	1
Iran	4
Jordan	1
Malaysia	1
Russian Federation	2
<b>Africa</b>	
Ghana	1
South Africa	2
Zimbabwe	2



GHS Symposium 2023

## GHS Symposium

### Inspiration and innovation thrive in collaborative environments:

The 15th GHS Symposium, held on November 22-23, 2023, at the picturesque Studienzentrum Gerzensee, embodied this spirit perfectly.

The event was a success especially because of the energy and ideas from everyone involved, showcasing the commitment and scholarly excellence of the GHS community. The symposium stands out for its broad array of topics explored by the research projects within the health sciences. It featured lively discussions through 39 student talks and 36 poster presentations, emphasizing participants' dedication and key contributions to science.

### Day One:

Participants arrived in the morning, registering and enjoying welcome coffee. The symposium commenced with greetings from the GHS President Sissel Guttormsen, followed by the GHS Coordinator Tullia Padovani, who presented key facts and data about the Graduate School and the novelties of the upcoming event.

The day then transitioned into a series of student talks held in parallel sessions across rooms named Zürich and Genf, allowing sufficient time for each presenter. Each talk included a 10-minute presentation followed by a 5-minute discussion and feedback session. The talks covered a diverse range of topics such as clinical neurocognitive

profiles, medical VR simulations, oral health conditions, and predictors of long-term outcomes in stroke patients, showing the breadth and depth of health research within the PhD program.

A highlight of the day was the "poster flash session," where students delivered one-minute summaries of their posters, sparking curiosity and encouraging further discussion during the subsequent "poster viewing session". Before this session, participants enjoyed a refreshing walk to the beautiful Gerzensee lake during a coffee break, adding a healthy touch from the GHS.

The next event was a poster viewing session in the Panorama Saal, accompanied by a pleasant aperitif.

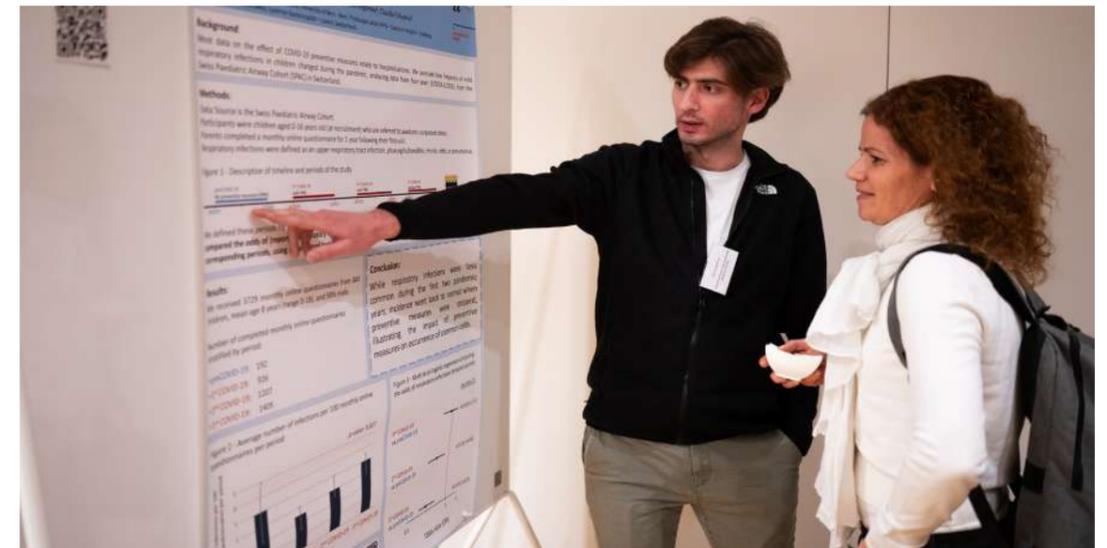
The evening included a productive self-organized student meeting, allowing for further networking and exchange of ideas. This meeting was particularly notable as it resulted in the election of three student representatives for the GHS steering board, one for each expert committee. The election of these representatives ensures that students' voices are heard in the governance of the GHS, and they will play a role in shaping the future direction of the program. The day concluded with a delicious dinner, fostering a sense of community and companionship among participants.



Day 1: Talks



Day 1: Poster Flash



Day 1: Poster viewing

### Day Two:

After breakfast, participants had the chance to join a workshop on the topic of "Philosophy and History of Science." Esteemed speakers Prof. Saana Jukola from the University of Twente and Prof. Jacob Stegenga from the University of Cambridge led the sessions. Their lectures delved into the philosophical underpinnings of health sciences, exploring themes such as measurement, values, and data communication, and served as introductions to the interactive workshop sessions.

After lunch break, participants reconvened for more student presentations, offering a platform for sharing diverse research findings. Each presentation session included a survey evaluation, allowing for continuous improvement. The day also featured two more interactive workshops, further enriching the participants' experience.



Day 2: Workshop with Prof. Saana Jukola, University of Twente



Day 2: Workshop with Prof. Jacob Stegenga, University of Cambridge

The final part of the symposium was an award ceremony, during which the GHS President and the Coordinator honored participants for their exceptional contributions. **Tamara Scharf** received the **Best Talk Award** for her insightful presentation on the "Effect of electronic nicotine delivery systems for smoking cessation on sleep quality: Secondary analysis of a randomized controlled trial". **Aziz Mert Ipekçi** was assigned with the **Best Poster Award** for his research on "Exploring factors associated with participation in a long-term household-based cohort study on pandemic preparedness".



GHS Symposium 2023

### Conclusion of the Symposium Session:

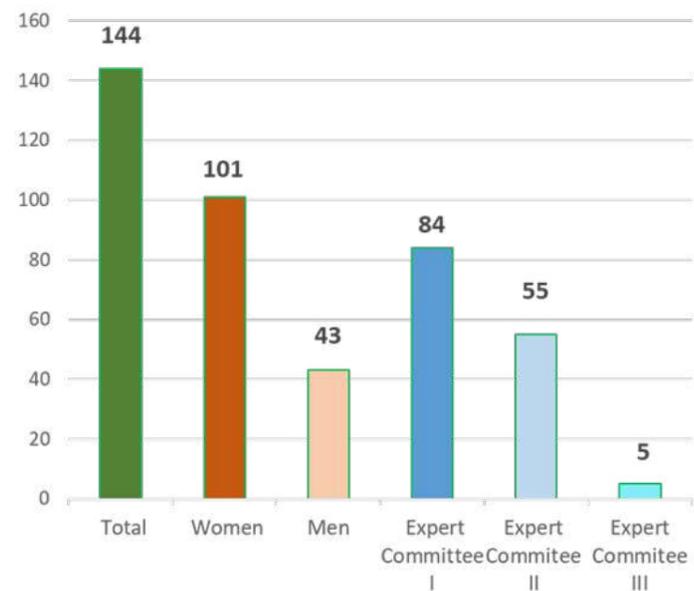
The 15th GHS Symposium not only showcased the high quality and variety of the PhD program but also highlighted the enthusiasm of the PhD students, reflecting a shared passion that drives academic excellence and innovation.



Diploma Ceremony Medical Faculty

## Graduations

### Graduations 2008-2023



### February 03

**Luzia Sonja Renggli** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology)

Institute for Infectious Diseases

Project title: From Hospital-Level to Patient-Level Antibiotic Consumption Data: How Can We Improve Surveillance of Antibiotic Use in the Frame of Antibiotic Stewardship Programmes?

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Andreas Oskar Kronenberg and Dr. med. Beat Sonderegger

### February 15

**Oche Adam Itodo** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology)

Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Cardiovascular risk in individuals with spinal cord injury

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Oscar Horacio Franco Duran and Prof. Dr. Jivko Stoyanov

### February 21

**Viktorija Marianne Gastens** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology and Biostatistics)

Institute of Primary Health Care (BIHAM)

Project title: Personalized preventive care and life expectancy among older multimorbid adults

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Nicolas Rodondi and Prof. Dr. Pedro Marques-Vidal

### February 28

**Niluja Nadesalingam** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

Translational Research Center, University Hospital of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy

Project title: Overcoming psychomotor slowing in psychosis - An interventional repetitive TMS-trial

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Sebastian Walther and Prof. Dr. Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg

### March 10

**Tasnim A. A. Hamza** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology and Biostatistics)

Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Flexible generic framework for evidence synthesis in health technology assessment

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Georgia Salanti and Prof. Dr. Cynthia Iglesias

### March 13

**Corinne Brunner** PhD in Health Sciences (Public Health Sciences)

University Children's Hospital Zurich

Project title: Educational interventions for parents of children with atopic dermatitis (The Eduderm Study)

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. em. Dr. Hansjörg Znoj and Dr. phil. Brigitte Seliner

### March 17

**Sarah Diezig** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

University Hospital of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Department of Psychiatric Neurophysiology  
Project title: The Borderlands of Wakefulness: Tracking the Transition from Reflective Thought to Dream-like Experiences at the Onset of Sleep

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. sc. nat. Thomas König and Prof. Dr. Peter Achermann

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### March 20

**Konstantina Chalkou** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology and Biostatistics)

Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Real-world predictions of heterogeneous treatment effects using evidence synthesis for health technology assessment

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Georgia Salanti and Prof. Dr. Andrea Manca

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### March 22

**Christine Adamus** PhD in Health Sciences (Applied Health Sciences)

Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, University Hospital of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy

Project title: Independent Supported Housing for non-homeless individuals with severe mental illness

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Thomas Dierks and Prof. Dr. med. Wolfram Kawohl

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### March 24

**Belinda Varaidzo Chihota** PhD in Health Sciences (Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics)

Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Epidemiology of Noncommunicable Disease (NCD) risk factors among people living with and without HIV in Southern Africa

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Gilles Wandeler and Prof. Dr. Samuel Bosomprah

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### March 24

**Cristina Mesa Vieira** PhD in Health Sciences (Public Health Sciences)

Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Psychosocial risk factors of mental disorders and cardiovascular disease

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Oscar Horacio Franco Duran and Prof. Dr. Dominique Sprumont

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### April 5

**Caroline Schneider** PhD in Health Sciences (Sports Medicine)

Preventive Cardiology and Sports Medicine, Inselspital Bern

Project title: Exercise training to combat cardiovascular toxicity in patients with cancer undergoing Anthracycline-based chemotherapy

Thesis advisor and co-referee: PD Dr. phil. Priska Christina Eser and Prof. Dr. Kristin Campbell

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### April 27

**Raphaela Muri** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

University Clinic for Diabetology, Endocrinology, Nutritional Medicine & Metabolism (UDEM), University Hospital Bern

Project title: Brain structure and function in adults with phenylketonuria - associations with cognition and metabolic control

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. phil. Regula Everts and Prof. Dr. med. Roland Gerhard Rudi Wiest

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### April 27

**Yasmin Salem Mahmoud** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology)

Department of Pediatrics, University Hospital Bern

Project title: Early-life exposures and lung development: The impact of perinatal risk factors on later lung function

Thesis advisor and co-referee: PD Dr. med. Sophie Yammine and Prof. Dr. med. Claudia Kühni

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### May 5

**Magdalena Linda Olivia Camenzind** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

Department of Neurology and Clinical Research, Inselspital

Project title: Creativity after focal brain lesions – About neural correlates of creativity

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. René Martin Müri and Prof. Dr. Jean-Marie Annoni

---

### May 8

**Daria Olena Berger** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology)

Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Taking the Next Steps in Epidemiological Strategies to Predict Childhood Respiratory Disease

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Claudia Kühni and Prof. Dr. med. Jürg Barben

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### May 15

**Evan de Schrijver** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology and Biostatistics)

Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM) / Oeschger Center for Climate Change

Project title: Climate Change and Health Impacts

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Ana Maria Vicedo Cabrera and Prof. Dr. Christoph Raible

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### May 24

**Maria Christina Mallet** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology)

Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Epidemiology of childhood cough in Switzerland

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Claudia Kühni and PD Dr. med. Carmen Casaulta

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## May 24

**Belén Rodríguez Galdín** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

Department of Neurosurgery, Inselspital Bern

Project title: Pathophysiology and treatment options in postural tachycardia syndrome and critical illness myopathy

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Werner Josef Z'Graggen and Prof. Dr. med. René Martin Mürli

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## June 19

**Simone Denzer** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

Institute of Psychology

Project title: EEG Microstates Associated with Reality Monitoring during Dream-Like Experiences: An Immersive Virtual Reality Approach

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Fred Mast and Prof. Dr. Peter Achermann

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## June 26

**Sven Strebel** PhD in Health Sciences (Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics)

Institut for Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Hearing loss after childhood cancer treatment

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Claudia Kühni and Prof. Dr. Marc Ansari

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## July 10

**Magda Rocío Gamba Rincón** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology)

Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Role of dietary phytochemical intake in cardiometabolic health

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Oscar Horacio Franco Duran and Prof. Dr. Lia Claudia Bally

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## July 10

**Marilyne Menassa** PhD in Health Sciences (Public Health)

Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Defining Healthy Ageing: The Role of Ethnicity and Lifestyle Factors

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Oscar Horacio Franco Duran and Prof. Dr. Pedro Marques-Vidal

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## July 13

**Dante Jr. Salvador** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology and Biostatistics)

Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM)

Project title: Diabetes mellitus: associations with atherosclerosis, myocardial fibrosis, and implications for heart failure

Thesis advisor and co-referee: PD Dr. Arjola Bano and Prof. Dr. med. Matthias Wilhelm

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## August 22

**Heba Al-Alwan** PhD in Health Sciences (Epidemiology)

Institute of Primary Health Care (BIHAM)

Project title: Type 2 diabetes: association with thyroid disease and prevalence of diabetes overtreatment

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Nicolas Rodondi and Prof. Dr. Robin P. Peeters

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## September 29

**Victoria Joséphine Bérengère Marie Chapellier** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

Psychiatric University Clinic UPD

Project title: What contributes to impaired communication in schizophrenia?

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Sebastian Walther and Prof. Dr. Steffen Moritz

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## October 20

**Florian Wüthrich** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

Translational Research Center, University Hospital of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy

Project title: An Examination of Psychomotor Retardation in Depression and Schizophrenia

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Sebastian Walther and Prof. Dr. med. Bogdan Draganski

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## November 20

**Martina Béatrice Göldlin** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

Department of Neurology, Inselspital Bern

Project title: Classifying intracerebral haemorrhage subtypes — MRI-based phenotype of small vessel disease

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. David Julian Seiffge and Prof. Dr. med. Jörg Christian Schefold

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## December 4

**Sai Sreenidhi Ram** PhD in Health Sciences (Medical Education)

Institute for Medical Education (IML)

Project title: The Changing Landscape of Medical Conferences: Investigating how future conferences can be designed to better cater to attendees' needs

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. Dr. med. et MME Sören Huwendiek and Prof. Dr. Kevin Wayne Eva

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## December 13

**Jacqueline Helena de Jong Mazairac** PhD in Health Sciences (Physiotherapy)

Department of Urology, Inselspital Bern

Project title: What do we know about abdominal and involuntary Pelvic Floor Muscle Contractions during a cough and forced expiration as assessed by Visual Observation, Vaginal Palpation and Perineal Ultrasound in Healthy Nulliparous Women?

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Fiona Christine Burkhard and Dr. Chantal Dumoulin

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## December 15

**Carlotta Luise Elisabeth Riebensahm** PhD in Health Sciences (Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics)

Department of Infectious Diseases, Bern University Hospital

Project title: Determinants and progression of liver steatosis among people with HIV

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Gilles Wandeler and Prof. Dr. med. Annalisa Berzigotti

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## December 21

**Nicole Gangl** PhD in Health Sciences (Neurosciences)

Translational Research Center, University Hospital of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy

Project title: Paranoia in Schizophrenia - A behavioral and neuroimaging study

Thesis advisor and co-referee: Prof. Dr. med. Katharina Deborah Lena Stegmayer and Prof. Dr. med. Eva Meisenzahl-Lechner

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## GHS Student Research Prizes

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**Adnan Mujanović**

Paul Dudley White International Scholar Award - American Heart Association  
Trainee Grant - Society of Vascular and Interventional Neurology

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**Andrea Nathaly Neher**

Poster prize 1st win InSim 2023, "INTEAM – A new Interprofessional team training In Virtual Reality (VR) for students"

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**Anna Julia Wyss**

Poster prize: Best multidisciplinary poster (Day of Clinical Research)

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**Bernhard Matthias Siepen**

25th Annual Meeting of the Swiss Stroke Society, 2023: Best abstract award (3rd prize) with the project "Intracerebral haemorrhage in patients taking different types of oral anticoagulants – a pooled individual patient data analysis from two national stroke registries"

Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences and Bangerter-Rhyner foundation "Project Grant" of the Young Talents in Clinical Research (YTCR) program"

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**Carl Alessandro Starvaggi**

Faculty Prize of the Medical Faculty of the University of Bern"

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**Carlotta Louisa Schneider**

SSSC Award for the best poster presentation in clinical sleep research "Modulation of sleep perception through auditory closed-loop stimulation of brain oscillatory activity". Annual Meeting 2023, Geneva 31st August- 1st September 2023"

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**Clemens Alexis Haupt**

"Best Trial in Progress" at the Day of Clinical Research, Inselspital, 2023"

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**Fabio Simon Ryser**

Faculty Prize 2023 of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Bern for the work: Dupilumab-induced eosinophilia in patients with diffuse type 2 chronic rhinosinusitis

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**Kalongo Hamusonde**

SNF Doc Mobility grant, GGD Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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Andrea Nathaly Neher



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Bernhard Matthias Siepen



Copyright Adrian Moser  
Carl Alessandro Starvaggi



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Carlotta Louisa Schneider



Clemens Alexis Haupt

**Lorenz Manuel Leuenberger**

Oral presentation prize at the Kinderklinik Research Day 2023

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**Mirjam Kolev**

Prize for one of the three best abstracts in Hepatology at the Swiss annual meeting for Gastroenterology and Hepatology September 2023

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**Mohammad Kassar**

Research grant from the Swiss Heart Foundation

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**Nadine Patt**

Research prize of the Reha Rheinfelden 2023

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**Rafael Wespi**

Poster prize (InSiM) – Reutlingen

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**Rukudzo Mwamuka**

African Mental Health Research Initiative PhD fellowship grant

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**Seyed Ahmad Banihashem Rad**

Awarded free student membership in the Faculty of Remote, Rural and Humanitarian Healthcare, top project presentation in “1st Summer School on Refugee and Migrant Health” held by Inselspital, Bern, Switzerland. Awarding institution: The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

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**Sonja Häckel**

Rob Johnston award’ at the Spine Society of Australia 34th Annual Scientific Meeting on ‘First longterm follow-up results on wear-induced osteolysis following cervical total disc replacement using the M6-C™ Artificial Cervical Disc’

Early Career Scholarship at the 34th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Spine Society of Australia

Junior Researcher Grant for patient-oriented research (with protected research time) Department Forschung und Lehre ‘Outcome of Surgical versus Primary Non-Surgical Treatment of Burst Fractures of the Thoracolumbar Spine in Patients without Neurological Symptoms: A Randomized Controlled Clinical Trial’; Insel Gruppe AG

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**Victoria Joséphine Chapellier**

Early Career Award at the Schizophrenia International Research Society (SIRS) conference 2023, Toronto, Canada

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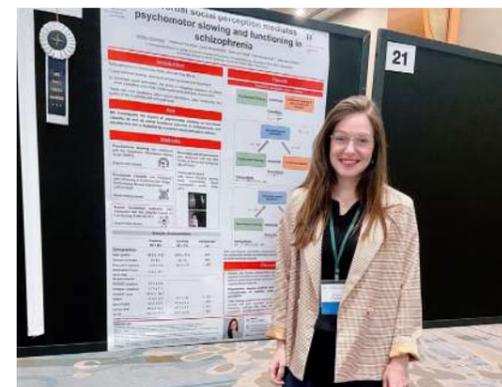


**Lorenz Manuel Leuenberger**



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**Nadine Patt**



**Victoria Joséphine Chapellier**



**Seyed Ahmad Banihashem Rad**

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## Publications 2023

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**Themis-Areti A, Andreotti; Tuleja, Aleksandra;** Döring, Yvonne; Maiolo, Massimo; Schaller, André; Vassella, Erik; Zweier, Christiane; Boon, Laurence M; Vikkula, Miikka; Rössler, Jochen; Bernhard, Sarah M.; Baumgartner, Iris (2023). *Parkes Weber Syndrome: Contribution of the Genotype to the Diagnosis*. Journal of vascular anomalies, 4(4), e076. Wolters Kluwer Health [10.1097/JOVA.0000000000000076](https://doi.org/10.1097/JOVA.0000000000000076)

Kazemian, Ali; Hoseinzadeh, Melika; **Banihashem Rad**, Seyed Ahmad; Jouya, Anahid; Tahani, Bahareh (2023). *Nudging oral habits; application of behavioral economics in oral health promotion: a critical review*. Frontiers in Public Health, 11 Frontiers Research Foundation [10.3389/fpubh.2023.1243246](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2023.1243246)

**Raguindin, Peter Francis;** Mueller, Gabi; Stoyanov, Jivko; Eriks-Hoogland, Inge; Jordan, Xavier; Stojic, Stevan; Hund-Georgiadis, Margret; Muka, Taulant; Stucki, Gerold; Glisic, Marija (2023). *The burden of cardiovascular risk in individuals with spinal cord injury (SCI) and its association with rehabilitation outcomes - Results from the Swiss SCI Cohort*. American journal of physical medicine & rehabilitation, 102(12), pp. 1043-1054. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins [10.1097/PHM.0000000000002276](https://doi.org/10.1097/PHM.0000000000002276)

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