

Swiss Public Health Conference Programme 2026

Health is complex, and it is precisely in this complexity where its beauty lies

A dialogue between research and practice across science, society, and the humanities

Day 1, 02 September 2026 – University of Lucerne

Time	Subject	Speaker
09:00	Reception and registration	
09:30	Opening	Sara Rubinelli , Health Communication, University of Lucerne Viktor von Wyl , Director, SSPH+ Thomas Steffen , President, The Swiss Society for Public Health
10:00	Session I – Interactive panel (German) What is knowledge in public health? Chair: Sarah Mantwill , Research Manager Competence Center for Learning Health Systems, University of Lucerne	Cross-examination of knowledge – a dialogical debate Olivia Keiser , Head Division of Infectious Diseases and Mathematical Modelling, Institute of Global Health, University of Geneva, Christoph Rehmann-Sutter , former president of the Swiss National Commission on Biomedical Ethics; University of Lübeck Christiane Meier , Chief Physician at Zurich Municipal Health Services Katrin Zöfel , Science Journalist with focus on medicine and Life sciences, Swiss Public Radio and Television (SRF)
11:15	Break	
11:45	Parallel Sessions I	<i>Separate program</i>
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Poster flash	
14:30	Parallel sessions II	<i>Separate program</i>
15:45	Break	
16:15	Session II - Interactive panel (English) The lived experience of health Chair: Céline Bolliger , Research Coordinator, University of Lucerne	A narrative encounter and translational dialogue Mark J. Moser , lecturer in communication, University of Applied Sciences (FHNW), Author of the book <i>The Art of Living with Illness</i> Saskia De Gani , Head Center for Health Literacy, Careum Beat Müller , Head palliative care, Lucerne Cantonal Hospital (LUKS) Stéphane Cullati , Senior Researcher, Epidemiology and Public Health, University of Fribourg
17:30	SSPH+ best PhD Abstract Award	Arnaud Chiolero , Co-Director, SSPH+
18:00	Aperitif	
19:00	Evening programme	Boat tour on the Lake of Lucern (e /Dinner

Day 2, 03. September 2026 – University of Lucerne

Time	Subject	Speaker
08:30	Reception and registration	
09:00	Welcome words	Michaela Tschuor, Health Minister, Canton of Lucerne
09:15	Session III – Interactive Panel (German) Interprofessionality as a practice of human recognition Chair: Christian Schirlo , Director Office for education and student affairs, University of Lucerne	Gesundheitscluster Zentralschweiz – Dialog über Fach- und Professionsgrenzen hinweg als ethische Praxis Luzia Vetter Räss , Clinical Nurse Scientist, Advanced Practice Nurse (APN), Luzerner Kantonsspital (LUKS) - HSLU Sybille Bracher , Program manager XUND Bildungszentrum Gesundheit Zentralschweiz Jürgen StremLOW , Dozent und Projektleiter, Institut für Soziale Arbeit, HSLU Manuela Rohrer , Physiotherapeutin, MPTSc, LUKS Ralf Baumgärtner , Leitender Arzt Orthopädie- und Unfallchirurgie, LUKS
10:30	Break	
11:00	Session IV - Interactive panel (English) The seduction of simplicity: Why low-quality health information persists Chair: PhD Students , University of Lucerne	If it's false but feels true: what makes it so convincing? Florian Scherer , Doctor of Healthcare, Canton of Lucerne; Specialist in Prevention and Public Health Cindy König , Health Communication Specialist and Influencer, Nutrition Zürich Marcel Verhoeven , Lecturer, Institute for Competitiveness and Communication, FHNW Dr. Anna-Sophia Beese , Scientific Project Management, Careum, Head Center of Health Literacy Marcel Zwahlen , Emeritus Professor, University of Bern and Senior Methods Consultant, Bern University of Applied Sciences
12:00	Lunch	
13:00	Poster flash	
13:30	Parallel Sessions III	<i>Separate program</i>
14:45	Break	
15:15	Session V – Interactive Panel (English)	What happens to care when machines decide who is at risk?

Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Public Health Chair: Viktor von Wyl , Epidemiology, Biostatistics & Prevention Institute, University of Zürich		Mike Schäfer , Director CHES – Center for Higher Education and Science Studies, University of Zurich Nadine Bienefeld , Senior Researcher & Lecturer – Human-AI Teaming in Healthcare, University of Lucerne Rouven Porz , Head of the Clinical Ethics Unit, University Hospital in Bern (Insel Group) Fabian Vollrath , Digital Health Strategist
16:30	SPHD Award	Anne Jachmann , Vorstandsmitglied, SPHD
	Best Poster Award and final remarks	Murielle Bochud , Co-Director SSPH+
16:45	End of the Conference	

🎧 (German to English)