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Marcel Zwahlen has a first degree in theoretical physics from the University of Bern. He later got retrained as an epidemiologist and obtained a PhD in Epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins University in the USA. He held positions at the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, the Swiss Cancer League and the University of Bern. He teaches methods in epidemiology and principles of biostatistics to the next generation of public health specialists. He is now professor emeritus at the University of Bern. His main message to others is: Be a scientific bullshit detector!