

Nino Künzli, MD PhD, Professor for Public Health
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Nino Künzli, with an MD from the University of Basel and a PhD from University of California Berkeley, is Deputy Director of the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute Basel, Switzerland (www.swisstph.ch), Professor of Public Health at the University Basel Medical School (Ordinariat), and - as of January 2015 - Dean of Study of the Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+ - www.ssphplus.ch/), a 50% position, affiliated at Swiss TPH and funded by University of Basel. SSPH+, a foundation of eight Swiss universities (Basel, Bern, Geneva, Lausanne, Lucerne, Lugano, Neuchâtel and Zurich), promotes and coordinates the university based teaching, research and expertise in the interdisciplinary field of public health.

At Swiss TPH, Künzli heads (until 31.12.2015) the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health (EPH), which assembles >190 scientists from various disciplines, including ~100 PhD students. As of 2016, he will instead head the new Swiss TPH Department of Education and Training, dedicated to teaching, training and services. The Department will also be in charge of the PhD programs, fostering education of both PhD students and supervisors.

With >300 peer reviewed articles, Künzli's research focus is on environmental epidemiology with a primary emphasis on understanding the effects of air pollution on health through exposure science and epidemiologic research. He also made key contributions to method development and applications to integrate scientific evidence of health effects of air pollution into policy-relevant risk assessment frameworks. He is in the board of directors of the only Swiss National population-based cohort study, namely the Swiss Study on air pollution and lung and heart diseases in adults (SAPALDIA). During 2002-2005 he was tenured Associate Professor at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles (USA). He was the first epidemiologist to receive a tenured Research Professor position from the prestigious Catalan institution ICREA, which offered him the opportunity to work at the Centre for Research in Environmental Epidemiology (CREAL) in Barcelona in Spain (2006-2009).

Künzli regularly serves on national and international advisory committees, including for EU and WHO. He was member of two U.S. National Academy of Science committees. Since 2012, he is the President of the Swiss Federal Commission on Air Hygiene – the clean air advisory board of the Swiss Government.

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