

Nino Kuenzli, MD PhD, Professor for Public Health

Personal Information

Name in Full: Nino Kuenzli, M.D., Ph.D., Professor / Ordinarius of Public Health
Address: Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute
Socinstrasse 57, P.O.Box, 4002 Basel, Switzerland
Phone / email: ++41 79 535 8 525 ; Nino.Kuenzli@swisstph.ch

Education

1976 High School/College Schweizerische Mittelschule Davos, Matura Typus B
1976-1983 University Medical School, University of Basel
1987 University Medical School, University of Basel, M.D.
1993 Master in Public Health (MPH) Advanced Degrees University of California, Berkeley, USA
1995 Board Certification FMH in Social and Preventive Medicine / Public Health, Switzerland
1996 Ph.D. (Epidemiology), University of California, Berkeley, USA

Positions since PhD (1995)

1995-2002: Member Board of Directors, Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine, University Basel ; 1996-2002 Teaching appointment, ETH Zurich; Environmental Epidemiology (Env. Health Science Masters)
2002-2007: Associate Professor with tenure, Department of Preventive Medicine, University of Southern California
2006-5/2009: ICREA Research Professor with tenure, Centre for Environmental Epidemiology CREAL Barcelona, Spain
5-12/2009: Director of (former) Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM), Basel, Switzerland
Since 5/2009 Full Professor (Ordinarius) for Social and Preventive Medicine/ Public Health University Basel Medical School
Since 1/2010: Deputy Director, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel and Head of Department of Epidemiology and Public Health
Since 1/2015: Dean of Study of the Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+) (50%)

Education

1976 High School/College Schweizerische Mittelschule Davos, Matura Typus B
1976-1983 University Medical School, University of Basel
1987 University Medical School, University of Basel, M.D.
1993 Master in Public Health (MPH) Advanced Degrees University of California, Berkeley, USA
1995 Board Certification FMH in Social and Preventive Medicine / Public Health, Switzerland
1996 Ph.D. (Epidemiology), University of California, Berkeley, USA

Research: Co-investigator / Steering Board Member of studies (alphabetical order)

- ECRHS – European Community Respiratory Health Survey; chair working group Air Pollution
- EGEA – French Study on the Genetic of Asthma (chair air pollution research)
- ESCAPE – European Study of Cohorts for Air Pollution Effects (FP7)
- REGICOR (Spanish Cardiovascular Registry and Cohort, Barcelona; (chair air pollution research)
- SALSA (SALIA-SAPALDIA Grant on Air pollution and Obesity in women (SNF DACH)
- SAPALDIA – Swiss Study on Air Pollution and Lung and Heart Diseases (SNF)
- SNC – Swiss National Cohort (SNF)
- TRANSPHORM - Transport related Air Pollution and Health impacts – Integrated Methodologies for Assessing Particulate Matter (FP7)
- University of Southern California (USC) Children's Health Study, Los Angeles
- URGENCHE: Assessment of health effects of climate policies in Europe and China (FP7)

Narrative CV

With an MD from the University of Basel and a PhD from University of California Berkeley (USA), Nino Künzli is Deputy Director of the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute Basel, Switzerland (www.swisstph.ch) and Professor of Public Health at the University Basel Medical School. He has a 28 year record of research in environmental epidemiology, reflected in some 400 [peer reviewed articles](#), cited > 20'000 times. The main focus is on ambient air pollution and its cardiorespiratory health effects. His air pollution research includes exposure science, epidemiologic research and the integration of both into health impact assessment to serve policy makers.

After the PhD (UC Berkeley) he returned to Basel to continue research in Switzerland. Appointed as tenured Associate Professor to the University of Southern California in Los Angeles he worked with the team of the prestigious Southern California Children's Health Study (2002-2005). He received an ICREA Professor position in Barcelona to join the Centre for Research in Environmental Epidemiology CREAL (2006-2009), now part of ISGlobal.

In 2009, Künzli got appointed to Basel as Full professor of Public Health and in charge of integrating the former Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine of University Basel into the former Swiss Tropical Institute to become Swiss TPH – an associated institute of University Basel (2010) – with Künzli as Deputy Director. After leading the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health until 2015, he took over the leadership of the newly created Department of Education and Training at Swiss TPH as the leading coordinating body of all Swiss TPH teaching activities at the Bachelor, Master and PhD level as well as the post-graduate and continued education programs.

Künzli regularly serves on national and international advisory committees, including for the E.U. and WHO. He currently serves in the WHO Guideline Development Group for the update of the Air Quality Guidelines. Since 2012, he is the President of the Swiss Federal Commission on Air Hygiene – the clean air advisory board of the Swiss Government.

Künzli is Co-Editor-in Chief of the International Journal of Public Health, which is owned by the Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+) www.sspplus.ch. Since 2015, Künzli is the dean of [SSPH+](#) - a foundation of currently eight Swiss Universities assembling the inter-university faculty of public health sciences.

Experience with Iran

On behalf of WHO, Künzli was invited to run a 1-week course on air pollution epidemiology at the Environmental Research Institute (Tehran University of Medical Sciences – TUMS) in 2013. This resulted in one student successfully applying for a Swiss federal ESKAS fellowship and a three-partner collaboration with MoU's established in 2014. The PhD student, Heresh Amini, led the Tehran Study of Exposure Prediction for Environmental Health Research (Tehran SEPEHR), based on a collaboration between Swiss TPH, the Air Quality Control Company of the Tehran municipality, Mechanical Engineering Department, Sharif University of Technology and the Center for Air Pollution Research (CAPR), Institute for Environmental Research (IER), Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.

He was invited as Opening Speaker, key note speaker, workshop leader and seminar teacher for two large international conferences on environmental health, held in Tehran in 2015 and 2016.

The collaboration with Iran resulted in several peer reviewed publications. Dr. Amini defended his PhD thesis successfully end of 2017 and started his post doc at the Harvard School of Public Health in March 2018. The collaboration will continue, now including also Harvard SPH. Co-supervised Master students might continue to work on Tehran data.

As steering committee member of the SSPH+ Lugano Summer School, Künzli shaped a well-received plenary session "From local to global: scaling up personalized prevention of chronic diseases", with Prof. Amirhossein Takian, in its 2017 edition. He is Deputy Acting Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Health & Medical Education, Iran, and Chair & Associate Professor, Department of Global Health & Public Policy; Associate Dean, School of Public Health- Tehran University of Medical Sciences.

Collaborating teams from Iran have also visited conference in Basel, at ETH Zurich and at EMPA Dübendorf.