

## December 2020 ASPHER Newsletter



### Table of Contents:

[MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT](#)

[MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT](#)

[COVID-19 NEWS](#)

[\*\*ASPHER COVID-19 Initiatives from our Members and Partners\*\*](#)

[COVID-19 video correspondence from Israel](#)

[Visegrád countries and COVID-19 health systems responses from the Observatory](#)

[IANPHI lessons learned from NPHIs' response to COVID-19](#)

[ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force](#)

[ASPHER Survey: COVID-19 Initiatives from Schools of Public Health](#)

[ASPHER Survey: School Reopening](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines: Where are the Data?](#)

[The Misuse of COVID-19 Herd Immunity Argument](#)  
[What are the COVID-19 Lockdown-induced illnesses](#)  
[Vitamin D for Preventive and Adjunct Therapy](#)

**[Recap of ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force Publications](#)**

[Call to join the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force](#)  
[Selected ASPHER Member COVID-19 publications](#)

[THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH \(TIPH\) EUROPE CAMPAIGN](#)

**[THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH Bulgarian campaign:  
EUPHATIC Project \[special monthly feature\]](#)**

[Make use of the TIPH label for your COVID-19 Actions and beyond!](#)

[ASPHER AND MEMBER NEWS](#)

[Teaching Diversity in Public Health Through a Transformative Approach](#)  
[ASPHER Member Staff Appointments and Awards](#)

[Roza Adany 2020 recipient of the Hugh R. Leavell Award](#)

[Valerie Curtis posthumously awarded WaterAid's President's Award](#)

[Anna Kołcz, Dean of Faculty of Health Sciences, Wrocław Medical University](#)

[Gentiana Qirjako, Head of Department of Public Health, Medical University of Tirana](#)

[Carl-Ardy Dubois, Dean of School of Public Health, University of Montréal](#)

[Selected ASPHER Member Publications](#)

[MEMBER AND PARTNER NEWS AND EVENTS](#)

[UMIT - Health Technology Assessment & Decision Sciences Courses](#)

[Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education presentation](#)

[The 14th European Public Health Conference](#)

[EuroHealthNet Skills for Health Webinar](#)

[Duncan Selbie elected IANPHI President](#)

[Charité Dean Axel Pries to be new president of World Health Summit](#)

[Future Africa and 1HOPE Webinar Series](#)

[OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[Recruiting: Professor in Public Health Research at Tampere University](#)

[Recruiting: Working on Europe & Studio Europa postdoc vacancy on Academic Transfer at Maastricht University](#)

[Recruiting: Executive Director at Gulf Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[Call for Papers: Encyclopedia of Human and Planetary Health](#)

[SHARE THE ASPHER NEWSLETTER!](#)

.....

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### A HAPPY FESTIVE SEASON TO YOU ALL

**May we all, according to our beliefs, enjoy, celebrate, reflect, share and give in our December festivals (some just passed). Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas, Hanukkah, Bodhi day, Pancha Ganapati, Omisoka, Kwanzaa, Yalda, Zaratosht No Diso, Yule, Winter Solstice, Universal Human Rights Day and more.**

2020 has been a historic, catastrophic and tragic year with the pandemic exploding into all our lives. Public health has been thrown into the public consciousness – like a referee in a football match, no-one was aware of us until something has gone wrong. Across many countries public health services and systems have been found weakened through years of austerity or allowed to wither because our messages have not been politically popular or sometimes downright annoying. In many cases politicians have been negligent in ignoring warnings on pandemic preparedness. Our politicians have been heroes or villains – with a few in between who found their feet when willing to be helped by public health expertise. We have seen heroic and decisive actions by [some countries and we have seen disastrous failures of public protection](#) from many of the populist persuasion.

There will be a reckoning, an audit, an inquiry, within countries and in [international organisations](#). Lessons will be learned, mistakes will be acknowledged and will have to be prevented from happening again. The biggest lesson for many countries, will be that we must invest in, and [expand our capacity and our expertise in public health](#). We must [build systems for public health protection and improvement](#) which recognise and value the multi-disciplinary nature of the public health profession. And we must also celebrate and embrace the public and community role in public health – it is ‘everybody’s business’.

But I choose here just to celebrate and thank all my colleagues and partners in the great enterprise of public health in the European Region and beyond. You have slaved away tirelessly through this pandemic year, often unsung, often in the background, or giving the very best of your advice and expertise to those in high places who will listen. There has been great innovation in the field over the past year – and extraordinary hard work converting entire syllabi to online teaching. We have been party to some extraordinary landmark meetings ourselves. The [European Public Health Week](#) online meeting in May was a welcome coming together of European partners marking a range of achievements. Congratulations and thanks to the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) for calling us all together in this great piece of solidarity. ASPHER organised a [successful online Deans’ & Directors’ Retreat in June](#), virtually in Sofia, thanks to Professors Tzekomir Vodenicharov and Karolina Lyubomirova. We were online again for the [ASPHER General Assembly](#) in September, when we welcomed 10 new members. And ASPHER was strongly in evidence in many sessions of [the 16th World Congress on Public Health](#) in October. One of the key outcomes of this congress is its statement "[Public health for the future of humanity: One planet, One people, One health](#)", which is officially supported by ASPHER. This was an outstanding event organised at short notice, a great leap into the unknown when the real

congress had to be cancelled earlier in the year. Congratulations again to the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA), EUPHA and the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SIItI) with great leadership from ASPHER's President Elect, Carlo Signorelli and WFPHA's President Walter Ricciardi.

ASPHER's COVID-19 Task Force has produced [a growing range of statements and handbooks](#) which are being well received across our membership and in many cases at the highest level of national government. I am extremely grateful for the tireless work of colleagues who have made my task as chair so much easier. Our young professionals group has been a delight and an inspiration, in their work on the COVID Task Force and also in our virtual ASSETS meeting in the summer. We have also driven forward the new [Global Network for Academic Public Health](#) with our sister organisations from other WHO Regions of the World. We are particularly grateful for the efforts of Laura Magaña and Dorothy Biberman from the American [Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health \(ASPPH\)](#), for helping us to propel our global agenda forward.

And we have moved forward the [ASPHER strategic 2025 agenda](#). We have improved and enhanced our internal governance, membership relations and financial procedures and we will be refining our internal rules in the new year. We continue to build on the work of Kasia Czabanowska and Anders Foldspang in embedding tools for [competency and curriculum development](#). Our [publication with WHO is a landmark](#) and we intend to develop ever stronger work with WHO including the professionalisation agenda. My thanks to Hans Kluge, Regional Director for WHO-EURO and Natasha Azzopardi-Muscat for their great enthusiasm and support for ASPHER and for their commitment to our joint working. Mary Codd is picking up this mantle and leading for us on a revision of competencies for applied infectious disease epidemiology with ECDC. Our engagement with young professionals will continue – not just through work on projects, but also by including them in the governance of ASPHER and developing a network of students and alumni. We look forward to renewing and building our partnerships with other European public health organisations - [EUPHA](#), the [European Public Health Alliance \(EPHA\)](#) and [EuroHealthNet](#), and we intend to build also on our work with the [International Association of National Public Health Institutes \(IANPHI\)](#).

Europe faces further uncertainty on the pandemic front as we enter 2021. Vaccines nearly at the door are bringing hope, but it is too soon to let down our guard – vaccine campaigns cannot come quickly enough to prevent our need for further social distancing and non-pharmaceutical protections. We face a [cold winter, possible flu, and further COVID](#). Those of us in the UK now face also the [prospect of a crash-out Brexit](#).

We can be optimistic, but we cannot be joyful at the prospects before us. Keep safe and protect yourselves, your families, your friends and colleagues. And come back renewed in the new year resolved to work better, smarter, not harder, to protect and improve the health of people and planet.

I would like to offer my thanks for all your support this year, particularly to my colleagues on the ASPHER Executive Board, the COVID-19 Task Force and especially to the ASPHER Secretariat – Robert Otok and Lore Leighton.

And now by way of the traditional Dr J Christmas present, here is an anthem for our time-  
['Lean on Me' by Bill Withers, played for you by Dr Harp's Medicine Band](#). Happy New Year!

Love, Peace,  
John Middleton, President, ASPHER

.....

## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

In many ways it is a relief to reach the end of this long and difficult year as we turn to the hope of better days to come. However, it has also been an inspiration to the ASPHER Secretariat to see our Members and the Public Health community pull together to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic. We have been privileged to work with all of you during the course of the year and to be able to contribute to the fight to hold on to and improve the health of our communities.

In addition to informing you of some recent developments, this December newsletter looks back on the accomplishments of so many of you over the course of the year. ASPHER Secretariat must congratulate all of our Members for stepping up and doing the work that needed to be done.

Below we remind you of the [series of country reports](#) published during 2020 describing a selection of our Member Schools' initiatives to combat COVID-19. We know this represents only a fraction of the activities undertaken by our Members, but we will be reporting back to you on [ASPHER's survey of schools' COVID-19 activities in early 2021 – in case you haven't yet responded there is still a last chance for your feedback!](#)

In addition to new publications on [Vaccines](#), [Herd Immunity](#), [Lockdown Illnesses](#) and [Vitamin D](#), the newsletter provides you with a recap of the work of the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force. The [Task Force](#), with the help of a dedicated group of ASPHER Young Professionals, has produced a stunning number of resources and we encourage our Members to make use of them and disseminate them widely. The Young Professionals also led on the [ASPHER School Reopening survey](#) - be sure to check back in for the final report in January.

You will also find the final [TIPH Europe Campaign Feature from Sofia, Bulgaria](#). It caps off the series of terrific 2019-2020 TIPH Europe campaigns, which all found innovative ways to persevere under adverse conditions to still remind us that 'This Is Public Health!' As announced last month TIPH is 'going global' in 2021 and we wish the best of luck to Members who are applying for TIPH Global Grants.

Of course we don't want you to miss out on other happenings, so be sure to read all the ASPHER [Member](#) and [Partner](#) news which include appointments, awards, upcoming

courses and webinars as well as several interesting [opportunities](#). Please don't forget to share news items from your programme with Lore at [lore.leighton@aspher.org](mailto:lore.leighton@aspher.org) so we can be sure to share them with the ASPHER community!

ASPHER is also continuing to work to support our Members within relevant EU and Brussels-led efforts. From the Association's endorsement of the [Rescue Horizon Campaign](#) to joining the European Health Forum Gastein (EHFG)'s [Manifesto for a European Health Union](#) calling on political leaders of Europe to commit to creating a European Health Union (EHU). We welcome this in harmony with Hans Kluge's [A new vision for WHO's European Region: united action for better health](#) to build a pan-European Culture of Health.

Finally, we leave you with a long list highlighting selected [Members' publications](#) to provide you with reading material over the holiday period.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday and we look forward to coming back to you in January refreshed and ready to take on a new year!

Best wishes from the ASPHER Secretariat,  
Robert Otok and Lore Leighton

Please don't forget to share your news, publications and announcements with [lore.leighton@aspher.org](mailto:lore.leighton@aspher.org) to be included in the next regular issue of the Newsletter and on the [ASPHER website activity log](#). We are now publishing more regular monthly newsletter reports which will better ensure timely release of your announcements to the ASPHER Membership! **We are planning to set up an editorial group early next year to strategize on future newsletters and other ASPHER communications – if you are interested to join, please let us know.** Finally, we always appreciate any comments and/or suggestions for improvements for us to consider for the newsletter.

.....

## COVID-19 NEWS

### ASPHER COVID-19 Initiatives from our Members and Partners

We hope you have enjoyed Members' reporting on country context COVID-19 situations in [ASPHER's newsletters](#) over the past six months. Beginning in June we heard from [University College Dublin on their contact tracing efforts](#), followed by [EHESP School of Public Health France's mobilization in July](#). In August, we received two reports from Spain from [Jose M. Martin-Moreno on making the case to strengthen public health](#) and from the [Andalusian School of Public Health on understanding COVID-19 from a public health perspective](#). September brought us a piece on [Boosting Public Health Resources in COVID-19 Times from Residency Programmes and the University Vita-Salute San Raffaele](#)

[in Italy](#). While October gave us a preview of the upcoming need for lockdown measures across Europe from the [School of Public Health, Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Israel](#), which was hit early by a second wave of Covid. This was rounded off by reporting on [second wave lockdown from Austria in November from the Center for Public Health, Medical University of Vienna](#) and a report on [planning for a second wave by the United Arab Emirates University](#).

We will conclude this impressive series with reporting from the [ASPHER survey on the roles played by Schools of Public Health in combating the pandemic](#). We thank all our Members who participated in the survey; you can expect to find that featured in the early part of 2021 for a strong opening to the year to highlight the hard work of academic public health programmes.

For the final newsletter of 2020 we have a video update from Israel as well as relevant COVID-19 materials from two of our partner organisations the European Observatory and IANPHI in which our member schools remain active and contribute. **If your school has an interesting initiative related to COVID-19 that you would like to share let Lore know at [lore.leighton@aspher.org](mailto:lore.leighton@aspher.org).**

## COVID-19 video correspondence from Israel

Future ASPHER Executive Board member Nadav Davidovitch of Ben Gurion University of the Negev has shared a video with an update given to international journalists on the current COVID-19 situation in Israel, including plans for the start of the Israeli vaccination campaign. [Watch the video here](#).

## Visegrád countries and COVID-19 health systems responses from the European Observatory

On 8 December, the European Observatory Health System Response Monitor held a webinar on Visegrád countries and COVID-19 health systems response as a part of its ongoing webinar series on the COVID-19 response. Director Iwona Kowalska - Bobko of Jagiellonian University, Institute of Public Health spoke on the situation in Poland. [The Visegrád countries webinar is available to watch here](#). Also see the [Webinar Series page](#) for links to former content and a schedule of upcoming seminars.

## IANPHI lessons learned from NPHIs' response to COVID-19

The International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI) held its annual meeting on 2nd December bringing together 140 participants from 46 NPHIs and IANPHI's partner organizations and guests (Africa CDC, ASPHER, ECDC, European Commission, Global Preparedness Monitoring Board, WHO). A special session on 'Lessons learned from NPHIs' response to COVID-19' was held during the meeting. Its objective was to discuss the preliminary lessons learned from National Public Health Institutes (NPHIs) in their

response to the COVID-19 pandemic since early 2020 and the role they played in supporting decision making and health system strengthening. [The thorough session summary report makes for very good reading and is available to download here](#) and IANPHI has set up a website [Collecting Lessons Learned on the COVID-19 Outbreak](#).

## ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force

### ASPHER Survey: COVID-19 Initiatives from Schools of Public Health

ASPHER received an overwhelming response to the survey on COVID-19 Initiatives of Schools of Public Health and we thank all of our members that have already taken part in identifying the valuable contributions of ASPHER members and associates to combat COVID-19. The information gained from the survey will be used to advocate for the role of Schools of Public Health in this pandemic.

**We are keeping the survey open until Monday 11th of January 2021 at midnight**, in order to be sure that as many Member institutions as possible are reflected in the results.

[Please find the survey link here.](#)

**In case you wish to have a word document version of the survey or need a fresh link, please email [ariane.bauernfeind.easp@juntadeandalucia.es](mailto:ariane.bauernfeind.easp@juntadeandalucia.es).**

### ASPHER Survey: School Reopening

ASPHER will soon publish the second report on the Reopening of Schools of Public Health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the course of the past six months, ASPHER Young Professionals have conducted surveys to find out how ASPHER member institutions have reopened their doors for students and staff. These surveys will help to map the responses that allow for a continuity of education, effective course provision, and ongoing support services for students, all while keeping students, faculty, and staff healthy and safe. The first round of surveys utilised questionnaires with open-ended questions, which revealed general trends in reopening strategies ([click here for the first report](#)). This initial survey served to structure a second survey with closed-ended questions, which will be the basis of the forthcoming report.

**The second survey is conducted until December 23rd, 2020.** To date, over 45 Schools of Public Health have participated. If your school has not participated yet, we kindly ask you to fill in the second survey.

So far, three key trends are emerging from the survey responses received:

1. All schools have switched to either **hybrid or online methods of teaching**, with most adapting their teaching methodology in response. Consequently, many schools also



had to invest in new technological equipment and infrastructure as well as special training for lecturers.

2. The **workload** for students and lecturers has increased across-the-board, with the majority of schools reporting a time impact.
3. Almost all schools have **contingency plans** for renewed outbreaks, quarantines and shutdowns, indicating a better level of preparedness.

Once all responses for the survey have been collected, descriptive statistics and in-depth analysis will be conducted, and the second report completed. The report is expected to be published in January 2021.

## COVID-19 Vaccines: Where are the Data?

Members of ASPHER's COVID-19 Task Force published a blog in the BMJ Opinion asking 'Where are the data?' on Covid-19 vaccines. See excerpts below and [read the full article here](#).

Through press releases, three pharmaceutical companies recently announced the interim, positive results of their covid-19 vaccine candidates clinical trials. All these data for the different vaccines are potentially very promising, but none of the phase III trials have been published in peer reviewed journals or analysed by age group, gender and case description (asymptomatic, mild, severe), virus transmissibility after immunisation, or duration of protection.

As public health professionals, we believe that the results of clinical trials, whether interim or final, should be subject to an appropriate systematic process, and then published in peer-reviewed professional journals. Reporting the covid-19 vaccine trial results in press releases before publication in journals is neither good scientific practice nor does it help to build public trust in vaccines.

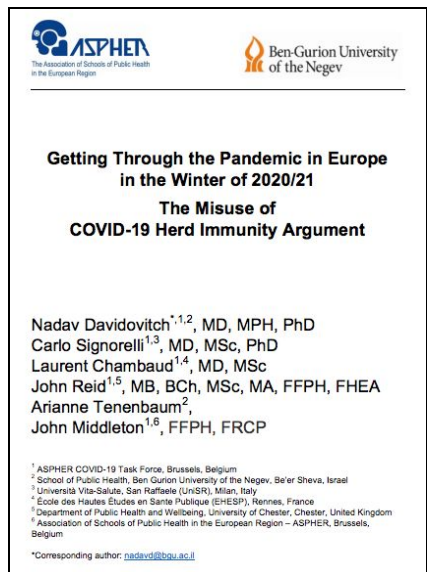
Martin-Moreno JM, Middleton J, Sheek-Hussein M, Green MS. Covid-19 vaccines: where are the data? BMJ Opinion. 2020.

URL: <https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2020/11/27/covid-19-vaccines-where-are-the-data/>

## The Misuse of COVID-19 Herd Immunity Argument

After the initial lockdowns, countries have come to the realization that COVID-19 is going to stay with us. This understanding has led to strategic discussions on how to live with COVID-19 in a period of "new normal". Consequently, there has been renewed interest in a so-called herd immunity approach to managing the pandemic. In COVID-19, the form of acquired population immunity from actual infections is different to the acquired herd immunity that follows systematic delivery of a comprehensive population vaccination programme.

Given that promising candidate vaccines are on the horizon for commencing programmes of wider population use from early 2021, we would strongly advise that governments and



their professional public health advisers hold firm for the winter with effective physical distancing and other non-pharmaceutical intervention (NPI) strategies to compress virus transmission and limit infection rates and impacts on health services. We caution against the concept of naturally occurring herd immunity in the context of the pandemic, it is potentially dangerous and is unsupported by broader scientific evidence. We advise that such a form of haphazardly acquired herd-immunity would not end the pandemic but would probably result in recurring outbreaks and epidemics that place an unacceptable and longer strain on economies and healthcare systems.

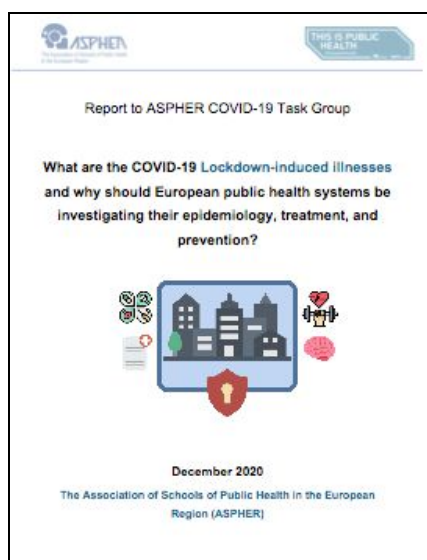
In their report '[Getting Through the Pandemic in Europe in the Winter of 2020/21. The Misuse of COVID-19 Herd Immunity Argument](#)' and BMJ Opinion blog '[Natural herd immunity should not be used as a means of pandemic control](#)', the ASPHER Task Force summarizes the arguments that call into question whether COVID-19 herd immunity can be relied upon as a pandemic control strategy.

[Read the full ASPHER Report on Herd Immunity here.](#)

[Read the blog editorial for BMJ Opinion here.](#)

Davidovitch N, Signorelli C, Chambaud L, Tenenbaum A, Reid J, Middleton J. Natural herd immunity should not be used as a means of pandemic control. BMJ Opinion. 2020. URL: <https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2020/12/17/natural-herd-immunity-should-not-be-used-as-a-means-of-pandemic-control/>

## What are the COVID-19 Lockdown-induced illnesses



The COVID-19 pandemic has had a serious impact on population health across the globe. In order to curb the spread of the pandemic, many governments introduced country-level lockdowns involving a range of social restrictions designed to limit physical-social interactions and mobility and create 'social distancing'. However, these measures have also resulted in extensive unintended adverse health effects on populations worldwide, with over four billion people estimated to have been under lockdown globally in 2020. ASPHER, as an academic public health community in Europe, has major concerns about the impacts of the pandemic and lockdown being unequally distributed and exacerbating pre-existing inequalities. This ASPHER Report '[What are the COVID-19](#)

[Lockdown-induced illnesses and why should European public health systems be investigating their epidemiology, treatment, and prevention?](#) aims to explore the anticipated long-term impacts of pandemic-induced lockdowns across Europe on different aspects of health that have been less commonly studied and explored.

The lockdown impacts were categorised into five main themes:

1. Addictions, substance use, and dependencies;
2. Diet and physical activity;
3. Mental illness;
4. Violence and abuse; and
5. Other health issues.

It is crucial that the policies developed to control and address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic consider its syndemic nature and act on both the health and economic impacts simultaneously. Further reviews using a systematic approach are required to validate the findings of our review and determine the key areas that policymakers should prioritize. To mitigate the negative impacts of this pandemic, including the winter wave, any new policy restrictions should be accompanied by national organised information campaigns on the themes most relevant for protecting the health and well-being of the population.

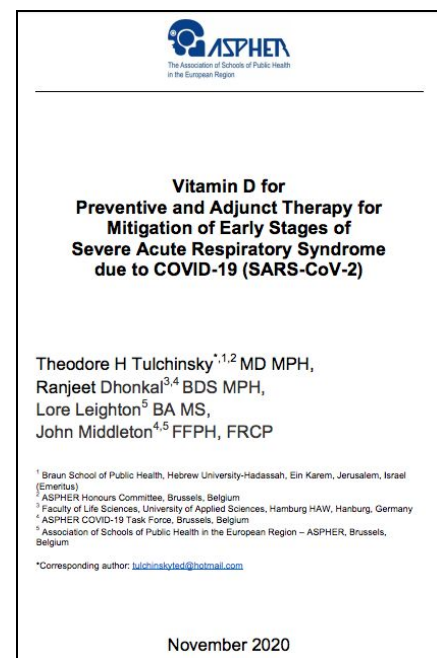
[Read the full ASPHER Report on Lockdown-induced Illnesses here.](#)

## Vitamin D for Preventive and Adjunct Therapy

The use of Vitamin D supplementation by the general population may be useful in the interests of protecting bone health and in increasing resistance to a wide range of infections, especially of the respiratory tract.

The most effective and least costly means by which this can be done is through fortification of milk products, as practiced in Canada, the US, Finland for many decades in total. Vitamin D supplementation is particularly recommended for populations at increased risk from vitamin D deficiency; risk factors include advanced age, ethnicity, skin colour, poverty, obesity, living at high latitude, lack of exposure to sunlight and being in long term care.

Although conclusive evidence must come from ongoing clinical trials, the fact is that there is growing evidence of a protective effect of Vitamin D for patients with SARS-COV-2 infections, and given that it is a safe and inexpensive prophylactic treatment, we consider it sensible to use it as part of the treatment of COVID-19 symptoms.



We present the report '[Vitamin D for Preventive and Adjunct Therapy for Mitigation of Early Stages of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome due to COVID-19 \(SARS-CoV-2\)](#)' as the first ASPHER statement and for consultation. We invite other learned medical societies to join with us in endorsing this statement, to further develop the consensus, and commit to further research on this important public health issue.

[Read the full ASPHER Report on Vitamin D here.](#)

## Recap of ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force Publications

ASPHER has been fortunate to have a highly dedicated group of faculty come forward from amongst our Member Schools to make up the [ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force](#). Chaired by ASPHER President John Middleton the Task Force began meeting on at least a weekly basis in March of this year and has generated several sub-groups on a variety of COVID-19 related topics important to Schools of Public Health, the greater Public Health community and beyond.

Over the course of the year, supported and propelled by an inspirational group of motivated Young Professionals, the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force has produced a truly impressive body of work (often translated to multiple languages). In addition to the recent publications highlighted above, here we attempt to give a recap of the available Task Force materials and remind our Members to use and widely disseminate these critical resources.

### Covid-19 Task Force Initiatives

**ASPHER COVID-19 Statement** published in the early days of the pandemic in Europe: [ASPHER statement on the novel coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) outbreak emergency.](#)

**COVID-19 Basic terminology booklets.** Three booklets explaining important basic terms on important aspects of the pandemic. These work hand in hand and contain great teaching material for public health students while also being a terrific resource to provide explanations of public health concepts to the informed lay public:

1. Handbook on Basic Epidemiological Terms: [How to Count Illness: Basic epidemiological concepts for understanding the COVID-19 epidemic.](#) Several language translations available and look for a new updated version soon!
2. Inequalities Basic Terms: [What is Inequality? Basic Health Inequality Concepts for Understanding the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
3. Surveillance/Tracking Apps Basic Terms for: [Repository of Basic Technical Terms for Public Health Professionals](#)

**Planning for a Second Wave Pandemic, Planning for Winter.** In addition to a general report on planning for winter several reports have been released on different aspects of second wave and continued COVID-19 planning.

- Planning for Winter Report: [Planning for a second wave pandemic of COVID-19 and planning for winter](#)
- COVID-19 Lockdown Illnesses Report: [What are the COVID-19 Lockdown-induced illnesses and why should European public health systems be investigating their epidemiology, treatment, and prevention?](#)
- COVID-19 Herd Immunity Report: [Getting Through the Pandemic in Europe in the Winter of 2020/21 The Misuse of COVID-19 Herd Immunity Argument](#)
- Vitamin D and COVID-19 Report: [Vitamin D for Preventive and Adjunct Therapy for Mitigation of Early Stages of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome due to COVID-19 \(SARS-CoV-2\)](#)
- De-escalation planning/regulations in aftermath: [webplatform on the state of the emergence from lockdown and recovery](#)
- School's Reopening: [July Rapid Response Survey Report](#). Follow up survey report coming soon.

The work of the ***Inequalities and Vulnerable populations*** subgroup has been particularly urgent and necessary as COVID-19 has laid bare and intensified inequalities in health. There will be follow up in the new year to look as well at broader issues of health economics.

- Inequalities and Vulnerable populations Statement: [First Statement of the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Group on Health Inequalities and Vulnerable Populations](#)
- Inequalities and Vulnerable populations Report: [Ethical and Professional Guidance for Public Health Academics and Professionals: How should we evaluate Country-level Rapid Reviews of Pandemic Impacts on Health Inequalities and Vulnerable population groups?](#)
- Inequalities Basic Terms: [What is Inequality? Basic Health Inequality Concepts for Understanding the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Reports on ***proper mask use*** as a part of a set of non pharmaceutical measures were produced for both children and adults. The Task Force expects to update you on further information about children and masks in schools very soon.

- Masks Use Statement: [ASPHER Statement on the Strategic Use of Masks](#)
- Masks Use Report: [Technical Report: Strategic use of masks as an element of a non-pharmaceutical measures set for a pandemic](#)
- Masks Use Infographic: [Infographic: Protocol for Strategic Use of Masks](#)
- Mask Use by Children Statement: [ASPHER Statement on the Use of Masks by Children](#)

The Task Force published reports and a decision tree on ***COVID-19 testing accuracy*** and is now working on a follow up report on recommended testing strategies.

- COVID-19 Testing Statement: [ASPHER Statement on the COVID-19 Testing](#)
- COVID-19 Testing Report: [Technical Report: COVID-19 testing: A reflection on test accuracy in the real world](#)

- COVID-19 Testing Decision Tree: [COVID-19 Testing decision tree](#)

In addition to the Repository of Basic Terms, an extensive report on **surveillance and tracking applications** and a statement were released comparing case studies on Apps use in several European countries.

- Surveillance/Tracking Apps Statement: [ASPHER Statement – Contact Tracing Apps](#)
- Surveillance/Tracking Apps Report: [Policy Report: Contact Tracing Apps for COVID-19 - An Overview of the European Region](#)
- Surveillance/Tracking Apps Basic Terms: [Repository of Basic Technical Terms](#)

In addition to the statement on masks, ASPHER released a report on an overview of **issues impacting children** during COVID-19.

- ASPHER Statement on Children's Issues: [First Statement of ASPHER on COVID-19 and its Impacts on Children During and After the Pandemic](#)
- Mask Use by Children Statement: [ASPHER Statement on the Use of Masks by Children](#)

## Call to join the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force

The [ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force](#) is always open to new members and new ideas to help make a difference during the Pandemic. **If you or a colleague at your School is interested to join the Task Force please let Robert know at [robert.otok@aspher.org](mailto:robert.otok@aspher.org).**

## Selected ASPHER Member COVID-19 publications

Burgess RA, Osborne RH, Yongabi KA, et al. The COVID-19 vaccines rush: participatory community engagement matters more than ever. *Lancet*. 2020.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)32642-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32642-8)

Dobe M, Sahu M. How the Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh, India, fought Corona. *South Eastern Eur J Public Health (SEEJPH)*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4119/seejph-3963>

Haug N, Geyrhofer L, Londei A, et al. Ranking the effectiveness of worldwide COVID-19 government interventions. *Nat Hum Behav*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-020-01009-0>

Jakab M, Nathan NL, Pastorino G, et al. Managing health systems on a seesaw: Balancing the delivery of essential health services whilst responding to COVID-19. *Eurohealth* 2020; 26(2).

URL:

<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/336299/Eurohealth-26-2-63-67-eng.pdf>

Lomazzi M, De Sousa L, Amofah G, Ricciardi W. Equitable access to COVID-19 vaccination: a distant dream? *European J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa190>

Lueddeke G. rRebuilding Trust and Compassion in a Covid-19 World. Policies for Equitable Access to Health. 2020.

URL: <http://www.peah.it/2020/11/9036/>

Mathur R, Bear L, Khunti K, Eggo RM. Urgent actions and policies needed to address COVID-19 among UK ethnic minorities. Lancet. 2020.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)32465-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32465-X)

McKee M. “NHS” Test and Trace under fire—a system flawed by design. BMJ Opinion. 2020.

URL:

<https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2020/12/11/martin-mckee-nhs-test-and-trace-under-fire-a-system-flawed-by-design/>

Pastor-Barriuso R, Pérez-Gómez B, Hernán MA, et al. Infection fatality risk for SARS-CoV-2 in community dwelling population of Spain: nationwide seroepidemiological study. BMJ. 2020;371.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m4509>

Signorelli C, Zucchi A, Tersalvi CA, et al. High seroprevalence of SARS\_COV-2 in Bergamo: evidence for herd immunity or reason to be cautious?. Int J Public Health. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00038-020-01524-x>

Uselli M. The Lombardy region of Italy launches the first investigative COVID-19 commission. Lancet. 2020.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)32154-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32154-1)

.....

## THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH (TIPH) EUROPE CAMPAIGN



Each month for the ASPHER newsletter we will be featuring one of the This is Public Health (TIPH) European Campaign winners. We hope these features will be an inspiration to all our Members to draw upon for how your schools can make use of the TIPH Campaign and contribute to the recognition and visibility to public health and the work of SPHs.

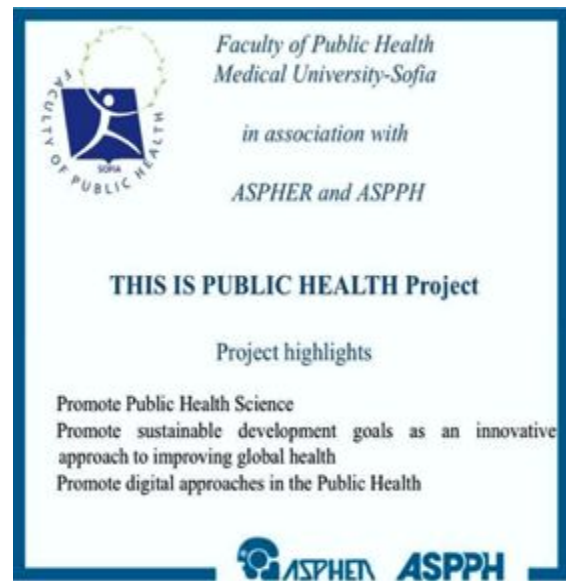
**This month we have the TIPH Campaign Feature from Sofia, Bulgaria!**

### THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH Bulgarian campaign – EUPHATIC Project

The “European Public Health Activities in Training and Increasing Capacity“ project of the Faculty of Public Health aims to promote Public Health science and its importance while motivating youngsters to study a Public Health degree. The target audience of the project included 1000 high school students, 10,000 students from the Medical University-Sofia and

citizen groups of Sofia. The strategies that were used as methods were lectures, round tables, a sport event, student exhibitions and media participation. The team collaborated with [the Student Union of the Medical University-Sofia](#) and the Association of the Bulgarian Medical Students for organizing lectures, meetings with public health students, the sport campaign in Sofia, and distribution of promotional materials.

The evaluation process included planning, implementation of the campaigns, completion, and dissemination and reporting through surveys (anonymous questionnaires among the students). The project was successfully performed and implemented with our target audience. During the project period we organized several events, described below which were planned for the period October 2019 - September 2020. Due to the pandemic situation worldwide, our team also organized volunteering events as a part of the project scope.



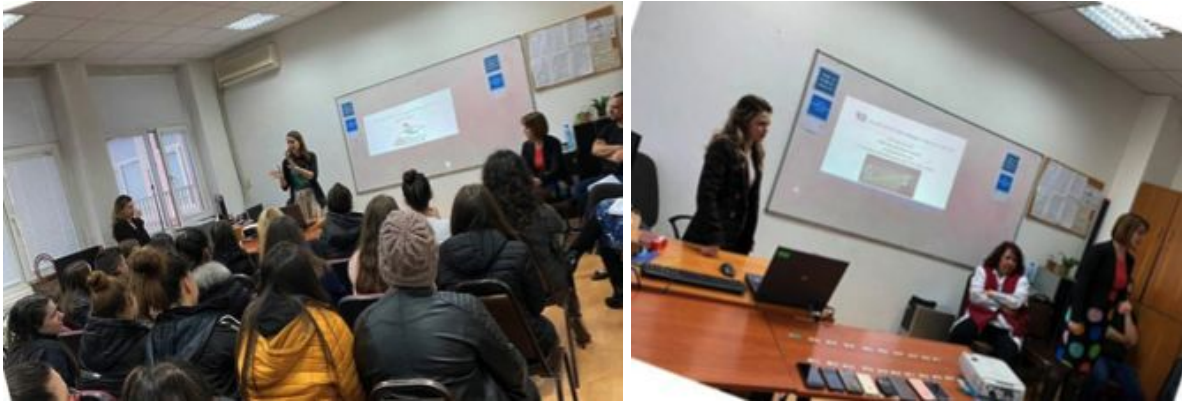
The Faculty of Public Health is one of the four faculties in the structure of the Medical University-Sofia, Bulgaria and in 2020 we celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary! In our Faculty we educate bachelors in the field of public health and health management, nursing, midwifery, emergency aid assistants and master degrees in over five specialties. Public Health is defined as the science of protecting and improving the health of communities through education, policy making and research for disease and injury prevention. Our participation in the TIPH project gave us the opportunity to address health problems of communities as a whole, and influence policies that affect the health of societies. We were delighted to see increases in the applications and enrolments in the Faculty's public health programs. This year we have more students applying to the PH bachelor/master programs, as well as higher interest in the PH courses as an impact of our participation in the TIPH project.



The [kick-off event of the TIPH Bulgaria Campaign](#) was a “Round Table” involving students from the Medical University-Sofia with lectures by the professors from the Faculty of Public Health on the topics of: Ethics; Bioethics and Health Policy; Sustainable Development Goals as an Innovative Approach to Improving Global Health; Health Insurance; and Digital Approaches in Public Health. The main aim of the event was to share



best practices in different learning and teaching methods and discuss public health and health care topics.



Another initiative organized by the Faculty of Public Health TIPH Campaign were Public Health meetings for students in their final year of high school at four schools in Sofia with presentations on different topics concerning the importance of Public Health science.



Prof. Dr Karolina Luybomirova, PhD participated in two interviews in the local news ([BNT News](#) and [Bulgaria On Air](#)), representing the University and the Faculty and their active participation in the TIPH project as well as how the Institution handles teaching in the current pandemic situation.



During the COVID-19 crisis the [Faculty of Public Health's students participate as volunteers](#) and help the medical staff in the different university hospitals in Sofia in combatting the epidemic. A promotional campaign related to COVID-19 included distribution of masks and face shields with the campaign logo among the students and teachers from the Medical University-Sofia.



**МЕДИЦИНСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ – СОФИЯ**  
**СТУДЕНТСКИ СЪВЕТ**

**КОНКУРС**

**ЗА ЕСЕ НА ТЕМА: ПРЕДИМСТВА И ПРЕДИЗВИКАТЕЛСТВА ПРЕД ОБУЧЕНИЕТО В МУ-СОФИЯ В УСЛОВИЯТА НА COVID-19”**

КАНДИДАТИТЕ ДА ИЗПРАЩАТ СВОИТЕ ЕСЕТА НА E-MAIL: [students@mu-sofia.bg](mailto:students@mu-sofia.bg) КАТО ГРАФАТА “ОТНОСНО” ДА СЪДЪРЖА ТРИ ИМЕНА, ФАК. НОМЕР И ФАКУЛТЕТ. **КРАЙНИЯТ СРОК ЗА КАНДИДАТСТВАНЕ Е 07.11.2020Г.** ЕСЕТО ДА Е В ОБЕМ ДО 3 СТРАНИЦИ, КАТО ПОБЕДИТЕЛИТЕ В КОНКУРСА ЩЕ МОГАТ ДА КАНДИДАТСТВАТ ЗА СТИПЕНДИИТЕ ЗА СПЕЦИАЛНИ ПОСТИЖЕНИЯ, ОТПУСКАНИ ОТ БЮДЖЕТА НА СТУДЕНТСКИЯ СЪВЕТ.

The TIPH Bulgaria campaign distributed an online survey “What is Public Health?” in which our students and teachers participated. As an extension of the survey, students from the Medical University-Sofia filmed a short video challenge to the father of medicine – Hippocrates. As you know, the Hippocratic oath is a symbol of ideas - humanity, kindness, devotion, self-sacrifice, honesty and selflessness. [This online event](#) organized in the framework of the TIPH project answered the question “What would you tell Hippocrates?”. Another online event in which the students participated was a short essay entitled “Challenges in education during the COVID pandemic”. [All the participants received special certificates for their participation.](#)

НОВИНИ И СЪБИТИЯ

**“КЛЮЧЪТ ОТ КУЛАТА” НА БУРГАС ЗА ПРОФ. ЗАЛИЩА ПЕТРОВА**

THE KEY FROM THE TOWER OF BURGAS FOR PROF. ZALITSA PETROVA

На тържествена церемония по случай празника на град Бургас на 8 декември 2019 г. по време на общинския събор по традиция ключът Димитър Николов връчва заминава почетен граждански, както и други високи отличия.

Проф. д-р Залища Петрова, д-р Лолуча „Ключа от кулата“ за принос в развитието на здравеопазването в Бургас и региона. Със заминава почетен гражданин. Била удостоена актрисата Ивана Диланова и режисьорът Симон Диланов. Почетни композитори! Георги Шатуридзе, Мелни Камбуров и Герган Аринин, които през март 2019 г. споделиха от здраве млада жена.

**ТОВА Е ОБЩЕСТВЕНОТО ЗАРАВЕ – ПРОЕКТ НА ФОЗ В КАМПАНИЯ НА АСФЕР**

„THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH“

Факултетът по обществен здраве на Медицински университет – София е дипломиран член на Асоциацията на университетите по обществен здраве в европейския регион (ASPER), в която участват повече от 120 институции. С цел популяризиране на общественото здраве АСФЕР и АБРНА (Асоциацията на университетите и програмите по общественото здраве) спонсорират кампанията ТРП (This is Public Health). В обемния конкурс за проект насочен към младите хора и обществото, участват много страни. От всички проекти предложени бива одобрени 5, сред които този на ФОЗ, МУ-София. Отриващата събития на кампанията по проекта се състои на 12 ноември 2019 г. Бива организирана кратка маса на тема „Това е общественото здраве“, чиято основна цел бива да се обмисли добри практики и мислите на обучението и преподаването, както и да се обсъдят важни теми в областта на общественото здраве.

В кръглата маса участват над 150 студенти от Медицински университет-София и специалностите: Медицинска, Дентална медицина, Фармацевтика, Обществено здраве и здравен грией. След официалните приветствия от Републиката на МУ-София и Студентския съвет бива изнесени интересни презентации. В тях се включва д-р. Александрина Восленарова на тема „Здрава, безопасна и здравна политика“, проф. д-р Анастасия Венкова „Цели за устойчиво развитие като иновативен подход за подобряване на глобалното здраве“, проф. Ангелина Иванчева и гл. ас. Светлин Георгиев „Здравно осигуря-

НОВИНИ И СЪБИТИЯ

ван“ и проф. д-р Каролина Любомирава. Детилни подходи в общественото здраве. Във втората част на форума студентите бива разделени в групи според професионалните теми и всички се включва активно и разглеждат на различни казуси с модератори: д-р Кристина Палова, д-р/р Ралица Пеева, д-р. Никола Христова, д-р. Тодор Кундуричев.

Кръглата маса завърши с предоставяне на казусите и живена дискусия, след което участниците получиха сертификати.

Проектът „Това е общественото здраве“ ще даде по-подробна информация на студентите за изучаването на общественото здраве с обяснение за перспективите и възможностите на тази професия и нейното значение за тяхното бъдеще. Изучаването на проблемите на общественото здраве ще им осигури знанията, разбирането и уменията, необходими за извършване на качествено обществено здравна работа. Биващите специалисти по общественото здраве ще си горно заангажирани и преванзивни на различни социално-значими заболявания с цел поддръжка на здравната култура и благосъстояние на населението.



On the occasion of World Health Day on 7 April 2020, the Faculty of Public Health and the Student Union of Medical University-Sofia organized a TIPH Campaign sport event. The main aim of the event was to promote physical activity among youngsters. With the help of professional coaches our event was dedicated to healthy lifestyle and training programs. A second sport event is planned for 2021 depending on the epidemiological situation. A possible solution will be an outdoor physical activity despite lockdowns. All participants will receive personal sport tasks to complete in order to improve their physical activity, which was more or less interrupted during the two lockdowns in Bulgaria.

The TIPH Bulgaria projects were published in the journal of the Faculty of Public Health, Health Management and Health Policy describing all project activities and events by our team.

## Make use of the TIPH label for your COVID-19 Actions and beyond!

What and who makes up Public Health is often not well understood by people outside of the field. We at ASPHER believe that the COVID-19 crisis has presented us with a unique moment in time for public health to make itself more visible and show the world what Public Health is really about and how action is taken to protect the health of the population.

If Public Health is to emerge stronger from this crisis, we must be able to have influence with decision makers, advocate for better funding for education and training, and recruit the best and the brightest of our young people to careers in Public Health. But in order to do so our actions must be recognized!

**We therefore encourage our Member Schools to label their COVID-19 actions with the This is Public Health (TIPH) Europe brand.**

Official TIPH campaign logos are available [here](#). And don't forget to use the hashtags: #ThisIsPublicHealth, #TIPHEurope, #ASPHERcampaign, #ASPPHgoesglobal

---

## ASPHER AND MEMBER NEWS

### Teaching Diversity in Public Health Through a Transformative Approach – An ASPHER Initiative

In advocating for the improvement of public health education in Europe, ASPHER fully endorses the need of bringing diversity more into the focus of teaching. ASPHER therefore develops a policy on diversity competence to be an element of the ASPHER 2025 strategy. This approach goes beyond the notion of cultural diversity as ASPHER envisages an

intersectional, holistic notion to reflect on multiple dimensions of diversity that affect the health of populations. To reach this goal, ASPHER member schools are developing teaching syllabi in a participatory process that offer guidance on how to address different dimensions of diversity that can add to existing curricula. The overall aim of the syllabi is to help establish a teaching program encouraging the reconsideration of normativities within public health while highlighting the intersectionalities between different markers of diversity. The teaching programme adopts a transformative learning approach to contribute to higher sensitivity toward diversity and simultaneously higher standards of the European public health education and training.

Read the full article: Wandschneider L, Namer Y, Otok R, Middleton J, Razum O. Teaching Diversity in Public Health Through a Transformative Approach—An ASPHER Initiative. *Front. Public Health*. 2020. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2020.588111>

**If you are interested in teaching diversity and health equity in public health, please sign up for the ASPHER initiative on diversity by contacting Lisa Wandschneider at Bielefeld School of Public Health ([lisa.wandschneider@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:lisa.wandschneider@uni-bielefeld.de)). We look forward to having you on board!**

## ASPHER Member Staff Appointments and Awards

### Roza Adany 2020 recipient of the Hugh R. Leavell Award



Róza Ádány, former ASPHER President (2002-2003) and founding Dean of the Faculty of Public Health of the University of Debrecen is the 2020 recipient of the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) [Hugh R. Leavell Award](#). The Hugh R. Leavell Award is discerned upon an individual who has demonstrated exceptional contribution to improve population health globally or within a specific geographic region.

Róza Ádány is a medical doctor with specialization in the field of preventive medicine and public health. She is Professor of public health at the University of Debrecen, Hungary, founding Dean of the Faculty of Public Health, leader of the MTA-DE Public Health Research Group, Visiting Professor at the Semmelweis University (Budapest, Hungary), President of the Public Health Genomics Section of the European Public Health Association. She is also the founding president (presently the honorary president) of the Hungarian Association of Public Health Training and Research Institutes, editorial member of the *European Journal of Public Health*, associate editor of the *Frontiers in Public Health* journal. She was president of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER), 2001-2003. Her scientific research in the past decades achieved international significance regarding the identification of susceptibility biomarkers of cardiovascular diseases; investigation of the structure and causes of premature mortality in Europe especially among Roma; and evaluation of interventions aiming at the improved efficiency of prevention. The number of

her scientific publications is over 350 with a cumulative impact factor more than 620, her studies have been cited more than 7500 times in the international literature (h-index=42). She contributed as expert adviser to the development of the revised version of the Health for All and the Health 2020 strategies of the WHO Europe. She received several prestigious Hungarian and international awards in acknowledgement of her work like the “For Hungarian Higher Education” medal, Széchenyi fellowship, Szent-Györgyi Albert prize, Semmelweis prize, Hőgyes Endre prize, Szilárd Leó fellowship, Hatvani and Pro Urbe awards of the city of Debrecen, “Award for Budapest”, Award of the European Regional Director of the WHO for outstanding contribution to the improvement of health of the European population and the “Distinguished Scientist Award” of the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science.

### **Valerie Curtis posthumously awarded WaterAid’s President’s Award**

Valerie Curtis, Professor at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) was posthumously awarded [WaterAid’s](#) President’s award. The Award is the highest honour the international charity can give, and is acknowledged and signed by its President, HRH The Prince of Wales. Valerie Curtis demonstrated a rare ability to combine science, communication and practical wisdom to become a pioneer in the field of water, sanitation and hygiene (Wash). She became director of the environment health group at the school and was appointed professor of hygiene in 2016. She played a critical role in having hygiene included under the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals in 2015, co-founded the Global Public-Private Partnership for Handwashing (now the [Global Handwashing Partnership](#)), helped establish Global Handwashing Day, co-developed the [Behaviour Centred Design](#) model for behaviour change, and worked with organisations in over 70 countries on the design and evaluation of innovative Wash interventions. Professor Curtis [passed away due to cancer on 19 October 2020](#).

### **Anna Kołcz, Dean of Faculty of Health Sciences, Wrocław Medical University**

Prof. Anna Kołcz is the new Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, [Wrocław Medical University](#). A physiotherapist, ergonomics trainer, and expert in health science for the Polish National Chamber of Physiotherapists in Poland, she is assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Biomechanics and Physiotherapy in Motor System Disorders, Faculty of Health Science, Wrocław Medical University. Prof. Kołcz founded and supervises the Ergonomics and Biomedical Monitoring Laboratory of Wrocław Medical University. She is a committed promoter of health behavior, and an active academic teacher. Her scientific interests include the use of modern technologies for monitoring health behaviors and safety, and on the job ergonomics for persons employed in the healthcare sector.

### **Gentiana Qirjako, Head of Department of Public Health, Medical University of Tirana**

Prof. Gentiana Qirjako is the new Head of Department of Public Health (School of Public Health), [Medical University of Tirana](#). A full-time lecturer in the Faculty of Medicine, she

has extensive experience in Public Health research, leading as Principal Investigator several important studies conducted in Albania in the fields of sexual and reproductive health, violence, child health, mental health, as well as experience in strengthening capacities of health care professionals, and in reaching out vulnerable and marginalized groups in the society.

### **Carl-Ardy Dubois, Dean of School of Public Health, University of Montréal**

Carl-Ardy Dubois, Full Professor and Director of the Department of Health Management, Evaluation and Policy at the École de Santé Publique de l'Université de Montréal (ESPUM) - ASPHER associate member, will become Dean of ESPUM from January 1, 2021 to May 31, 2026.

Carl-Ardy Dubois holds a Ph.D. in Public Health from the Université de Montréal focusing his graduate studies in Health Services Administration. He also has a doctorate in medicine and training in epidemiology and statistics. He did his postdoctoral studies in the United Kingdom, at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, in collaboration with the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. He is also affiliated with the Centre de recherche en santé publique (CRéSP), the Centre de recherche Interactions du CIUSSS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal and the Réseau de recherche en interventions en sciences infirmières du Québec (RRISIQ). Before joining the ESPUM team, he was a professor at the Faculty of Nursing at the Université de Montréal. For 12 years, as a research fellow at the Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS), he conducted a research programme on the analysis of health services organization models, health human resources management and health services performance evaluation. He is currently pursuing several projects in the same fields. His contributions have been recognized, among others, by the Peter Reizensten Prize, which the International Society for Quality in Health Care awarded to him in 2014.

### **Selected ASPHER Member Publications**

Alderslade R, Kokeny M, Tsouros A. The health of the public: What has gone wrong? South Eastern Eur J Public Health (SEEJPH). 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4119/seejph-3996>

Almeida Santos J, Santos DT, Arcencio RA, Nunes C. Space-time clustering and temporal trends of hospitalizations due to pulmonary tuberculosis: potential strategy for assessing health care policies. Eur J Public Health. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa161>

Berger A, Madarasova Geckova A, von dem Knesebeck O, et al. 100 years of IJPH: looking back and ahead. Int J Public Health (2020).

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00038-020-01522-z>

Bowe AK, Healy C, Cannon M, Codd MB, Physical activity and emotional-behavioural difficulties in young people: a longitudinal population-based cohort study, Eur J Public Health. 2020.

URL:

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa182/5974959>

Dias NG, Fraga S, Soares J, et al. Contextual determinants of intimate partner violence: a multi-level analysis in six European cities. *Int J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00038-020-01516-x>

Di Pietro ML, Zaçe D, Grazia Sisti L, et al. Development and validation of a questionnaire to assess Unaccompanied Migrant Minors' needs (AEGIS-Q). *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa184>

González CA, Bonet C, de Pablo M, et al. Greenhouse gases emissions from the diet and risk of death and chronic diseases in the EPIC-Spain cohort. *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa167>

Kinnunen JM, Rimpelä AH, Lindfors PL, et al. Electronic cigarette use among 14- to 17-year-olds in Europe. *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa145>

Kocot E, Szetela A. Assessing health systems' preparedness for providing care for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants: a scoping review. *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa135>

Laaser U, Bjegovic-Mikanovic V, Hamdan M, Senkubuge F Michel-Schuldt M. Editorial: Women's Health in Low-Resourced Countries: Epidemiology, Governance, Advocacy, Capacity. *Front Public Health* 8:602467.

URL: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2020.602467/full>

Leão T, Barro, H. Merging academy and healthcare in the Public Health training of medical students. *Public Health Reviews*. 2020;41:28.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40985-020-00146-1>

Mansholt H, Czabanowska K, Otok R, de Nooijer J. Professionalization of Public Health – an exploratory case study. *South Eastern Eur J Public Health (SEEJPH)*. 2020.

URL: <https://www.seejph.com/index.php/seejph/article/view/3845>

Morris S, Stewart D, Madden M, McCambridge J. A scoping review of qualitative research on perceptions of one's own alcohol use. *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa211>

Nittas V, Buitrago-Garcia D, Chetty-Mhlanga S, et al. Future public health governance: investing in young professionals. *Int J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00038-020-01521-0>

Nusselder WJ, Rubio Valverde J, Bopp M, et al. Determinants of inequalities in years with disability: an international-comparative study. *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa194>

Phumaphi J, Mason E, Barroso C, et al. Independent accountability for women, children, and adolescents under threat. *Lancet*. 2020.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)32484-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32484-3)

Sands M, Aiken AM, Cumming O, et al. The effect of behavioural interventions targeting hand hygiene practices among nurses in high-income hospital settings: a systematic review. *Public Health Reviews*. 2020;41:29.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40985-020-00141-6>

Stubbe Ostergaard L, Wallach-Kildemoes H, Thøgersen MH, et al. Prevalence of torture and trauma history among immigrants in primary care in Denmark: do general practitioners ask? *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa138>

Tonia T, Van Oyen H, Berger A, et al. If I tweet will you cite later? Follow-up on the effect of social media exposure on article downloads and citations. *Int J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00038-020-01519-8>

Valenzuela MJ, Waterhouse B, Aggarwal VR, Bloor K, Doran T. Effect of sugar-sweetened beverages on oral health: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa147>

van Kessel R, Hrzic R, Czabanowska K, et al. Autism and education—international policy in small EU states: policy mapping in Malta, Cyprus, Luxembourg and Slovenia. *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa146>

Winzer E, Wakolbinger M, Schätzer M, et al. Impact of a nutrition education programme on free sugar intake & nutrition-related knowledge in fifth-grade schoolchildren. *Eur J Public Health*. 2020.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckaa219>

.....

## MEMBER AND PARTNER NEWS AND EVENTS

### UMIT - Health Technology Assessment & Decision Sciences Courses



University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology (UMIT Tirol) has several Health Technology Assessment & Decision Sciences (HTADS) courses planned for early 2021.

[Causal Inference for Assessing Effectiveness in Real World Data and Clinical Trials: A Practical Hands-on Workshop](#) 25 - 29 January 2021; ONLINE 5-Day Certified University Course



[Introduction to Statistics - An Applied 3-Day Hands-On Workshop with R](#) 25 - 29 January 2021; 3-Day Certified University Course

[Winter School in Clinical Epidemiology](#) 08 - 12 February 2021; 5-Day Certified University Course

[Scientific Reporting and Writing](#) 17 - 19 February 2021 (Start of online exercises: 18 January 2021); ONLINE 3-Day Certified University Course

[More information and online booking for courses are available here.](#)

## Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education presentation

Linda P. Fried, MD, MPH Dean, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health presented the Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education (GCCHE) presentation to the Global Network on Academic Health on 19 November.

In addition to presenting the GCCHE she outlined Four levels of interventions on health impacts of climate change: (1) Public health: Population-level interventions for prevention and mitigation; (2) Health Systems: Preparation for climate-related health events and decreasing carbon footprint; (3) Clinical care for climate-related health impacts; and (4) Science to advance knowledge.

**Member schools interested in taking part in collaborations through the GCCHE and the Global Network for Academic Public Health (GNAPH) may contact ASPHER Secretariat.** The topic of climate change and global collaboration are both high on the ASPHER agenda for 2021.

[Click here for the slideshow presentation.](#)

## The 14th European Public Health Conference

The 14th European Public Health (EPH) Conference will be held in Dublin, Ireland, from 10 to 13 November 2021. The main theme of the conference is: 'Our Food, Our Health, Our Earth: A Sustainable Future for Humanity'. Subthemes are:



- Gender health at the margins or the centre?
- Digital Health
- Workforce and Skills
- Climate Emergency
- Food policy, global health and the Sustainable Development Goals

For more information see: <https://ephconference.eu/>

## EuroHealthNet Skills for Health Webinar

A recording of the [EuroHealthNet Skills for Health Webinar: Up- and Re-skilling for a Sustainable Recovery](#) is now available if you missed the live event on 3rd December.



The COVID-19 crisis hit Europe during a period of significant transitions, including technological and digital, environmental, economic, demographic and social change. ‘Building back better’ from the crisis will require new and more equitable approaches to these other challenges as well. A focus on skills will be key. Amongst others, speakers included ASPHER’s Immediate Past President Kasia Czabanowska.

[Watch the recorded EuroHealthNet Skills Webinar here.](#)

## Duncan Selbie elected IANPHI President

[The International Association of National Public Health Institutes \(IANPHI\) announced the election of Prof. Duncan Selbie as its new president.](#) Selbie, the former chief executive of [Public Health England](#) stated: “Public health institutes are a force for unbelievable good around the world, I am passionately committed to serving IANPHI’s members and helping show the world how important national public health institutes are to global health and economic prosperity.” Selbie will begin a three-year term as IANPHI President in January 2021.

## Charité Dean Axel Pries to be new president of World Health Summit

Prof. Dr. Axel R. Pries, dean and member of the board of Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, will be the new president of the [World Health Summit](#), one of the world's most important forums on global health, from January 1, 2021 on. The physician and physiologist succeeds Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten, who founded the World Health Summit as former CEO of Charité in 2009 on the occasion of Charité's 300th anniversary.



Prof. Dr. Axel Radlach Pries is a medical doctor and professor of physiology. Before his appointment as Dean of Charité in 2015, he was Head of the Institute of Physiology at Charité. Previously, he was a professor of physiology at Freie Universität Berlin, and until 1998, the Cologne native worked as a senior physician for anesthesiology at the Heart Center Berlin. As Dean of Charité, he is significantly involved in the reform of teaching, including the implementation of the model course of study in medicine and the establishment of new courses of study such as public health.

## Future Africa and IHOPE Webinar Series

The World Education Research Association Task Force Global Challenges and Education is sharing an opportunity to participate in a webinar series focused on developing education research capacity which takes into account transdisciplinarity as a lens to global challenges.

The aim of the series is to build collaborative transdisciplinary research capacity of early career and doctoral students through a One Health & Well-Being lens - using the Zoom-digital platform. Others are welcome to attend the series as the session topics - involving a wide range of expertise drawn from across global regions and organisations (please see flyer, attached) - will provide an excellent opportunity to share and cross-pollinate ideas engaging a wider audience - especially at this time of continuing global challenges and uncertainties.

The third and final webinar will be held on 27 January 2021.

See [here for more information](#) and [here for the webinar schedule](#).

---

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Recruiting: Professor in Public Health Research at Tampere University



Tampere University Health Sciences Unit, Finland is seeking to hire a Professor/Associate Professor in Public Health Research.

Tampere University is seeking a highly motivated and accomplished academic to conduct, organize and supervise scientific research, develop public health as a multidisciplinary field, participate in public engagement activities, conduct research-based teaching, and maintain international collaborations. This professor will hold a senior/supervisory responsibility for conducting and developing public health research and will participate in teaching courses in our multidisciplinary bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs, including medical programs.

**Applications must be submitted by 31 January 2021.**

For more information about the position and to apply [see the announcement here](#).

## Recruiting: Working on Europe and Studio Europa postdoc vacancy on Academic Transfer at Maastricht University

The postdoc vacancy for MWOE research theme 4 (Knowledge, Knowledge, Technology and Digitalisation) is now live on Academic Transfer (AT2020.379 - **deadline 31 January**):

<https://www.academictransfer.com/en/296671/post-doc-maastricht-working-on-europe-knowledge-technology-and-digitalisation-08-10fte/apply/#apply>

## Recruiting: Executive Director at Gulf Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Recognizing the need for strong public health coordination across member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the opportunity inherent in recent regional investments in public health infrastructure, the Gulf Health Council (GHC) is looking to establish the Gulf Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Gulf-CDC; the Centre) with three objectives: : 1) Support the development of collaborative public health programs, policies and practices; 2) Strengthen regional public health training and capability building; and 3) Enable the collection, integration and utilization of public health data across key indicators through surveillance and research.

The GCC office is looking to recruit an Executive Director to support the establishment of the Gulf-CDC. The postholder will bring with them significant experience of working on a national or regional level in a similar role. The postholder will be responsible for establishing the office, strategic planning, implementation and operational management of the new center. The postholder will be reporting to the Director General of the GHC. The tenure of the appointment will initially be for 2 years (renewable) and will be based in the Saudi Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

[See the full profile required here.](#)

**If you wish to learn more about the position, please contact Prof. Abdullah Al Gwizani at [algwizani@moh.gov.sa](mailto:algwizani@moh.gov.sa) before 31 December 2020.**

## Call for Papers: Encyclopedia of Human and Planetary Health

The concept of Human and Planetary Health departs from the view that whereas human activities have caused significant biophysical changes (e.g. climate change, pollution, loss of biodiversity, changes in the natural cycles, changes in land use and resource depletion), it is a mistake to believe that only the physical environment has suffered. On the contrary. Human health has also been negatively influenced by them. Indeed, the rapid deterioration of environmental conditions has substantially increased the burden on human health by affecting nutrition, fostering the spread of infectious disease and non-communicable diseases, increasing home displacement and conflict and affecting mental health, among

others. This background serves to outline the need for a publication on Human and Planetary Health.

The proposed Encyclopedia on Human and Planetary Health will focus on demonstrating how planetary health may be pursued, with an emphasis on humans and on human influences. The Encyclopedia on Human and Planetary Health will focus on:

1. Outlining which human activities influence or disturb natural systems
2. Describing the health impacts of environmental problems to human health
3. Illustrating some of the measures which may be deployed to change current trends (e.g. reductions in resource consumption)
4. Showcasing tested solutions to reduce human influences on planetary health

Other related themes may also be accepted. The publication will be part of the world's leading peer-reviewed book series on matters related to sustainable development: <https://www.springer.com/series/13384>. This will be a high-impact, high citations piece. The peer-reviewed nature of the publication means that it officially counts as a publication output for promotion and tenure purposes.

The editorial team is now asking for expressions of interest, consisting of a 200 words abstract, along with the full contact details of the authors. Interested authors are warmly encouraged to contact the editors and seek advice. **The deadline for submissions of abstracts is the 20th January 2021. Full papers are due by 15th April 2021.** The book is expected to be published in late 2021. Abstracts should be sent by the above deadline to: [iusdrp@ls.haw-hamburg.de](mailto:iusdrp@ls.haw-hamburg.de).

[For the full Call for Papers click here.](#)

Share the ASPHER newsletter!



[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)  
ASPHER Brussels | T: +31 (0) 433 884 398 | S: [aspferskype](#) | E: [office@aspher.org](mailto:office@aspher.org)