



'Social Media and Public Health' Working Group - Call for Participation

Social media is a pervasive part of our lives. Billions of people around the world use social media to connect with friends and family and share and consume information. However, social media can also be a source of misinformation and harmful health advice. Influencers, who are often not experts in health, can spread misinformation about topics such as diet, exercise, and medical treatments. This misinformation can have a serious impact on people's health, such as leading to disordered eating, body image issues, vaccine hesitancy, excessive exercise, and the use of untested supplements.

Research on the effects of social media on health has been limited, and most of this research has been conducted in the United States. We believe that it is important to expand this research to Europe to better understand the impact of social media on the health of European individuals.

We propose to create a working group under ASPHER to conduct research on the effects of social media on health. The working group would have the following goals:

1. Partnership research between stakeholders
2. Organizing relevant discussions and webinars
3. Forming a consortium to submit joint research proposals to the European Union
4. Collaborating in mentoring students and YPs on the topic

We believe that this research is important because it would help us to better understand the potential, challenges, and the dangers of social media related to health. It would also help us to develop strategies to mitigate these dangers and harness them to promote public health.

We would be grateful for ASPHER Member expressions of interest to participate.

Sincerely,

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