



B4: INTEGRATION OF CHILDREN WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS AT SCHOOL

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Progress in medical technologies and comprehensive health care allow more and more children with chronic medical conditions to reach school-age and attend school. The pedagogic concept of integrating all children into regular schools is increasingly enforced in most communities in Switzerland, thus confronting schools with complex challenges. Children with chronic medical conditions often have to perform time-consuming therapeutical interventions during their school day. Schools have not only to contribute to optimize the health status of the children, support daily routines, anticipate acute risk situations, but also find ways to enable these children to participate as much as possible in all aspects of school life including sports, camps, excursions and other school programs. Needs of the individual child have to be balanced with the needs of the school system, including ensuring educational achievement for all children of the class, supporting teachers and protecting them from inadequate medical responsibility.

The goals of this workshop are

- to learn about the epidemiology of chronic medical conditions in school-aged children in Switzerland in order to understand the volume of the challenge brought towards school
- to learn examples of support provided by School Health services
- to discuss specific needs and solutions and elaborate other possibilities of support for schools and children with chronic conditions by various professionals of the Swiss health care system.

In order to have a working framework and to know the extent of the situation, JC Suris will present data on the prevalence of chronic conditions among adolescents in Switzerland. CA Wyler Lazarevic will present the interventions and tools developed to optimize integration of children with chronic diseases in schools and pre-school settings in Geneva. S.Stronski will share a current integration project of the School Health Service of the city of Zurich that involves various stakeholders of the school and health care system.