

Brian Martin, MD MPH



Brian Martin received his MD in 1990 from the Medical Faculty of the University of Basel and his MPH in 1996 from the Harvard School of Public Health. He qualified as a specialist in Prevention and Public Health FMH (Swiss Medical Association) in 1997 and holds the Certificate of the Swiss Society for Sports Medicine SSSM since 1999. Since 2012 he has a postdoctoral lecture qualification (“Venia Legendi” as “Privatdozent”) in Social and Preventive Medicine (Preventive Medicine and Public Health) at the University of Zurich. Brian Martin’s main research interests are population-based approaches for the prevention and control of non-communicable and communicable diseases. This includes studies on patterns and determinants of health behaviour, the effectiveness of approaches and interventions as well as the development and implementation of strategies and policies. Brian Martin’s citation metric details can be found at “www.researcherid.com/rid/H-3241-2012”.

From 2000 to 2004, Brian Martin was the head of the Health Promotion Unit at the Swiss Federal Office of Sports Magglingen and from 2005 to 2009 he was of head of the Physical Activity and Health Branch as well as a professor at the Swiss Federal Institute of Sports Magglingen. Until 2012 he served in a number of functions in the Swiss Army, including those of troop physician, Sports Physician of the Field Division 5 and Chief Physician of the Epidemiology Expert Group of the Biological Service BDA 18. From 2009 to September 2015 he was the head of the Physical Activity and Health Unit at the Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Prevention Institute EBPI (formerly Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine ISPM) of the University of Zurich UZH; from 2017 until 2019 he was co-director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Physical Activity and Health at EBPI UZH. From November 2014 to March 2017 Brian Martin was the Chief Medical Officer (“Kantonsarzt”) of the canton of Basel-Country, from June 2017 until March 2020 Chief Medical Officer of the canton of Zurich and from April until December 2020 Associate Chief Medical Officer of the canton of Zug. Since the end of 2020, he is Chief of the Special Military Medical Services and Deputy Chief of the Military Medical Services of the Swiss Armed Forces.

National and international activities

Brian Martin has served and is serving in several national and international expert groups. He was in charge of the Network HEPA (Health-Enhancing Physical Activity) Switzerland from its foundation in 1999 until 2004. From 2005 to 2009 he was the chairman of HEPA Europe, the European Network for the Promotion of Health-Enhancing Physical Activity at WHO, from 2010 to 2014 the chairman of Agita Mundo, the global network for physical activity promotion. From 2016 until 2019 Brian Martin was the president of PAPRICA, the Association for Physical Activity Promotion in Health Care in Switzerland; from the end of 2017 until March 2020 he was the vice-president of the Association of the Chief Medical Officers of the Cantons of Switzerland (VSK).

Selected publications

Martin B, Martin-Diener E, Pfister M, Hauri R. Erfahrungen mit dem Konzept des Kantons Zug für COVID-19. Schweiz Ärztztg 2021; 102(08): 280-283.

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Martin BW, Neuner-Jehle S, Martin-Diener E, Grüninger U, Bize R, Weil B, Quinto C, Auer R, Humair JP, Cornuz J. Conseil-santé dans la médecine de premier recours, partie 1. Approches pour les maladies non transmissibles et au-delà. Swiss Medical Forum 2016; 16(43): 916–920.

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Martin-Diener E, Meyer J, Braun J, Tarnutzer S, Fäh D, Rohrmann S, Martin BW. The combined effect on survival of four main behavioural risk factors for non-communicable diseases. Prev Med 2014; 65:148-52.

Martin-Diener E, Kahlmeier S, Vuillemin A, van Mechelen W, Vasankari T, Racioppi F, Martin BW. 10 years of HEPA Europe: what made it possible and what is the way into the future? Schweiz Z Sportmed Sporttraumatol 2014; 62 (2): 6-12.

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