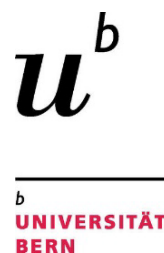


The Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM) at the University of Bern performs research in a range of disciplines relevant to public health (www.ispm.unibe.ch). This PhD project is conducted in close collaboration with the **University Children's Hospital Bern (Inselspital)** and combines epidemiological and clinical research. The project is jointly supervised by **Prof. Dr. med. Philipp Latzin (Inselspital)** and **Prof. Dr. med. Claudia Kuehni (ISPM)** and is embedded in the Childhood Cancer Research Group at ISPM.



We are looking for a highly motivated

PhD student: Physical activity and cardiopulmonary fitness after childhood cancer (3 years, 100%, start as soon as possible)

With continuously improving treatments, nearly 90% of children diagnosed with cancer can now be cured. However, many survivors experience long-term health consequences related to cancer and its treatment, often affecting multiple organ systems and overall physical functioning. Reduced physical activity and impaired exercise capacity are common and may contribute to fatigue and reduced quality of life, but remain insufficiently understood in young survivors.

In this PhD, you will investigate physical activity patterns, exercise capacity, and determinants of physical limitation in children and adolescents after cancer. The project follows survivors from three Swiss university hospitals and combines accelerometry, cardiopulmonary exercise testing, functional assessments, and clinical and questionnaire data

During your PhD you will:

- Coordinate a multicentre prospective cohort study in Swiss University Children's Hospitals (Bern, Basel, Geneva)
- Collaborate closely with paediatric oncologists, cardiologists, pulmonologists, exercise physiologists, and study nurses to support recruitment and assessments
- Collect, harmonise, and integrate clinical, treatment-related, physiological, and behavioural data from multiple sources
- Apply and develop your skills in epidemiological research, data management and statistical analysis
- Present your results in (inter)national conferences and publish them in peer-reviewed journals

You have:

- A university degree ideally in medicine (MD), possibly in sports sciences, physiotherapy, or physiology
- A strong interest in paediatric oncology, exercise physiology, and epidemiological research
- Ideally clinical experience
- A strong interest in epidemiology and biostatistics; ideally experience in data analysis
- Fluency in English and German and/or French, ideally all

What we offer:

- Work in a motivated and competent research team of clinicians, epidemiologists and statisticians
- Preparation for a research career in a clinical setting (paediatric teaching hospital), in a university (epidemiology or preventive medicine), or a public health institution
- The PhD counts (partially) as medical training (Paediatrics, Public Health, or similar)
- A lively graduate school at the University of Bern
- Salary according to the Swiss National Science Foundation salary scales for PhD students

If you are looking for an exciting position in a highly motivated interdisciplinary team, please send your **CV with motivation letter** to ISPM HR Office (hr.ispm@unibe.ch) and Maša Žarković (masa.zarkovic@unibe.ch) by **August 15, 2026**.