

Seminar

on **Thursday, October 20th 2016, 16:00** (seminar room 1st floor)

Are Health Inequalities Changing over Aging? Life Course Factors in Health Trajectories

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Health is dynamic and changing over the life course. In early life, children have to grow up in good family and socioeconomic conditions to attain their best development; in adulthood, especially at older age, individuals have to maintain their level of health and well-being as long as possible. Nevertheless, some people will start life under poorer conditions compared to others; some will maintain good health status until a more advanced age compared to others; at older ages, some will experience a decline in their health at a higher rate compared to others; after facing adverse events (job loss, divorce, etc.), some will restore their initial level of mental health more efficiently compared to others. If such variations in health trajectories are frequently explained by the respondents' socioeconomic position, life course research has shown that factors from the family and the working spheres are associated with differential change in health trajectories. Especially, it can result in accelerated decline for disadvantaged subgroups, generating growing inequalities over aging compared to the advantaged subgroups.

This presentation will describe recent findings on inequalities in health trajectories over aging, during adulthood, based on the Swiss Household Panel and the Swiss sample of SHARE.



Stéphane Cullati is a life course health sociologist at the Swiss NCCR "LIVES: Overcoming Vulnerability: Life Course Perspective" (Universities of Lausanne and Geneva). He was educated at the Universities of Lausanne, Geneva and Grenoble, received his PhD from the University of Geneva and made his postdoctoral stay in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health of University College London. He is specialized in the study of health inequalities and life course epidemiology and conducts research on life course factors associated with health trajectories. He is also a medical sociologist at the Quality of Care Service of the Geneva University Hospitals & Department of General Internal Medicine, Rehabilitation and Geriatrics, University of Geneva, conducting research on safety of care, clinical teamwork and mental health of healthcare professionals.

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