

**Seminar on Thursday, February 22, 2018, 16:00** (ISPM seminar room 606, 1st floor)

## **Biological embedding of socioeconomic differences in health**

**Dr. Silvia Stringhini**

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In the last years, research has expanded with the aim of identifying the biological mechanisms through which socioeconomic status (SES) is embedded and eventually “gets under the skin”. This new research area stems from the argument that if differences in the social environment are causally related to health, then differences in social dimensions must express themselves in terms of variations in biological factors that are linked to health. The identification of these factors might be important not only for clarifying the complex mechanisms involved in the social distribution of diseases, but also for better targeting public health interventions aimed at reducing these inequalities. Evidence is also accumulating for a crucial role of epigenetic modifications induced by the experience of social adversity in initiating these physiological dysregulations. In this talk, I will briefly discuss the origins of social inequalities in health and then present the state of the evidence on the biological consequences of social inequalities.

**Dr. Silvia Stringhini**



Dr. Silvia Stringhini is Senior Lecturer and Privat Dozent at the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine in Lausanne, Switzerland. She holds a PhD in Epidemiology and Public Health, a Masters in Global Health and a Master in International Economics. Her main research areas are: social inequalities in chronic diseases and ageing, the role of health behaviours in the genesis of social inequalities in health, and the biological consequences of social inequalities. She has been working on data from several cohorts from different countries, including the UK, France and Switzerland. She is the principal investigator of several research grants from the Swiss National Science Foundation and the University of Lausanne, and she is a co-investigator and work package leader of the EU Horizon 2020 LIFEPAATH project

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