



Thomas Abel is Professor for Health Research at the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine at the University of Bern, Switzerland. A Medical Sociologist with a focus on structure-agency perspectives, his major research program addresses issues of social stratification and inequalities in health and health behaviours.

« Critical health literacy in pandemics: the special case of COVID-19 »

In a pandemic like the current COVID-19 crisis, the active participation of the public is of central importance. Certain factors typical for new pandemic diseases complicate or obstruct the populations' contributions. Public health and health promotion experts need to understand the key role of critical health literacy in a pandemic. Here I make the case for a definition of critical health literacy in a pandemic, CHL-P. We recently developed a set of survey items to measure selected aspects of CHL-P in a sample of Swiss university student and I will report first results on their distribution and associations with relevant co-factors. Overall, I suggest that the concept of CHL-P can help professionals to support individuals and communities as agents for effectively dealing with the public health crisis.

**Join the lecture on Thursday, 1 October 2020 at 1:00 pm in room 320 or
online on zoom!**

For those who like to participate on-site: Please register by e-mail
(amoya.ramseyer@ispm.unibe.ch) **by 30 September 2020.**

First come, first serve!

Join the lecture on zoom:

<https://unibe-ch.zoom.us/j/92521591605?pwd=UUVmVVhJaTFGdXRqUHhENE5FdGVIZz09>

(Meeting ID: 925 2159 1605, Passcode: 449541)