

UV and Light exposure

National Report Switzerland

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1. Involved parties and their activities

UV exposure

Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) www.bag.admin.ch

The FOPH is mainly involved in primary prevention in the field of UV radiation, i.e. dissemination of information on UV protection or sunbeds, publishing daily UV Index forecast as well as real time measurements of the UV Index.

UV-Index Link: <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/de/home/themen/mensch-gesundheit/strahlung-radioaktivitaet-schall/elektromagnetische-felder-emf-uv-laser-licht/sonne-uv-strahlung/Prognose.html>

Additionally the FOPH published factsheets on Vitamin D.

As national public health authority, the FOPH prepares and maintains the legislation (cf. next section).

Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology (MeteoSwiss) www.meteoswiss.ch

MeteoSwiss models the UV Index and provides the data for publication.

Swiss Cancer League (KLS) www.krebsliga.ch

The Swiss Cancer League is an NGO dedicated to cancer prevention, patient-oriented research funding and supporting cancer patients. Concerning skin cancer prevention, they offer a wide range of consultation services, disseminate information and organise campaigns.

The Swiss Cancer League, in collaboration with the FOPH, is planning to realize a conference about preventing measures of sun exposure and to develop new school material in order to educate schoolchildren about the risk of UV radiation.

Swiss National Accident Insurance Fund (Suva) www.suva.ch

Suva, the Swiss National Accident Insurance Fund, is an independent company under public law and insures people at work and at leisure. Regarding UV radiation, SUVA gives advice to enterprises and publishes corresponding information as well as occupational exposure limits (OEL) – with the intention to protect employees from excessive exposure to UV radiation.

L'Institut universitaire romand de santé au travail (IST) www.i-s-t.ch

The Institute is involved in the promotion of occupational health, research, teaching, and consulting. The IST occasionally performs Occupational Safety Research in UV radiation.

Light exposure

Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) www.bag.admin.ch

The FOPH published factsheets on LED lamps. Planned is a factsheet regarding blue light hazard from displays.

Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) www.bafu.admin.ch

The FOEN publishes guidelines for the protection of light emission that can have an impact on human's health. The guidelines have already been published in the year 2005. The Swiss Federal Council mandated the FOEN to renew those guidelines, which have been in public consultation until June 2017.

State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) www.seco.admin.ch

SECO is the federal government's centre of excellence for all core issues relating to economic and labour market policy.

Concerning optical light, the SECO, in collaboration with the FOPH, will work on a factsheet regarding "human centric lighting".

2. New Policies and Legislations

Protection of public from non-ionizing radiation and sound

In order to protect the public from non-ionizing radiation and sound, a new draft law has been elaborated by the Federal Office of Public Health. Since April 2016 the draft law is been discussed in the Swiss parliament. A final decision on the implementation of the law is expected in June 2017.

The law will regulate the use of sunbeds, the use of cosmetic NIR- applications, limitations for sound at events or the handling of laser pointers.

Concerning the regulation of UV appliances such as sunbeds, it is planned to prohibit the access to sunbeds for persons under the age of 18 years. Further restrictions of access to sunbeds will be defined.