



Summary general questions

Switzerland

April 17, 2019

Country description

The population in Switzerland is estimated at 8.4 million, with 87,000 births each year. The average life expectancy is estimated at 81 for men and 85 for women (2016). The gross national income per capita (PPP int. \$) is 65,006 (2017). The estimated total expenditure on health per capita (Intl \$, 2014) is 6,468 and the total current expenditure on health as percentage of GDP (2014) is 11.7%.

General health and school systems

About 99% of children are born in the hospital or maternity clinic. Prematurely born children can be treated from 24 weeks. The average stay in the hospital is 3-6 days, but people can leave a few hours after birth. The birth registration coverage is 100%. The infant mortality under the age of 5 per 1000 live births per year is 3.5 (in 2017).

The primary school starts at age 4 (Kindergarten is part of mandatory primary school).

Existing prevention programmes and coverage

There is a well-established national newborn screening program at day 4 (for 10 diseases) with a full population coverage. General Preventive Child Health Care programmes are nationally and regionally (by 26 cantons) organized. There are no differences in recommendations, but differences in the use of the recommendations. The screening is performed by pediatricians, nurses, youth doctors, GPs, and practice assistants. The care is funded by health insurance and the municipalities. When the screening takes place at the pediatrician parents pay a patient contribution of 10%.

Health care contact moments in the first weeks and at 4-6 year (2018)

	Vaccination or tests
First weeks	
Day 1, day 4, 1 week	General examination
1 month	General examination
2 months, 4, 6,12,15,24, (36) months	DiTePer,IPV, HiB and if wished HepB, PCV13, MenC, according to vaccination plan plus general examination
4-6 year	
4 years	General examination
4- 7 years	DiTePer, IPV weight, height, vision, general examination
6 years	General examination

There is no active invitation, but all children are offered to undergo screening. The School Health Services invite all pupils at school. The coverage is not systematically monitored, however, for example in Berne 80.5% of the children in Kindergarten were screened. There is no systematic monitoring of screening outcomes. No information has been provided on monitoring the quality of the programme and on cost-effectiveness studies.

About 89-97% of the children are vaccinated. The Swiss vaccination plan changed by end of March 2019. Up-to-date information can be found on <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/de/home/gesund-leben/gesundheitsfoerderung-und-praevention/impfungen-prophylaxe/schweizerischer-impfplan.html>.

The total costs of general screening are unknown. The average salary costs for a pediatrician are 160-220 euros per hour.

References

WHO (all accessed August 2018):

- Data on country population and economics: <http://www.who.int/countries/en/>
- Data on birth registrations: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.GSWCAH54v>
- Data on vaccinations: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.UHCIMMUNIZATIONv>

World Bank (accessed August 2018):

- GDP per capita: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.PP.CD?view=chart>