

Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland

David Fäh
ISPM Zürich



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

Aims of this meeting

- Evaluate potential for collaboration between Swiss TPH and ISPM Zürich
- Contribution ISPM Zürich:
 - Concept
 - Experience
 - Swiss National Cohort and
 - Cardiovascular disease



Aims of this meeting

- Contribution Swiss TPH:
 - Environmental data?
 - Knowhow in analyses?
 - Digital Terrain Model
 - Experience in air pollution?
 - Effect of ETS on heart- and respiratory function?
 - SAPALDIA?



Research areas for collaboration

- Major priority: **physical** environment
 - Examine “independence” of altitude effect on CVD mortality

 - Evaluate involved factors
 1. climate
 2. air pollution



Research areas for collaboration

- Minor priority: **political** environment
 - Assess the impact of smoking ban legislation on CVD (and other disease) morbidity (and mortality)



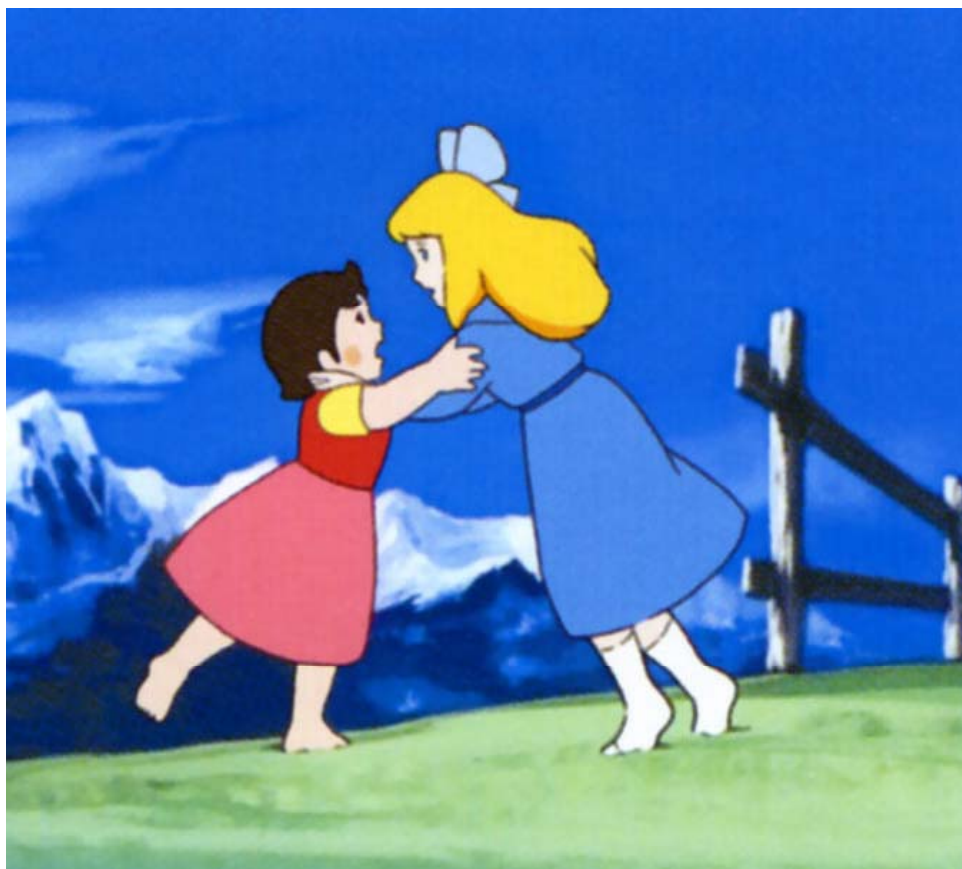
Research area, major priority

Climate and other environmental factors associated with cardiovascular mortality in Switzerland










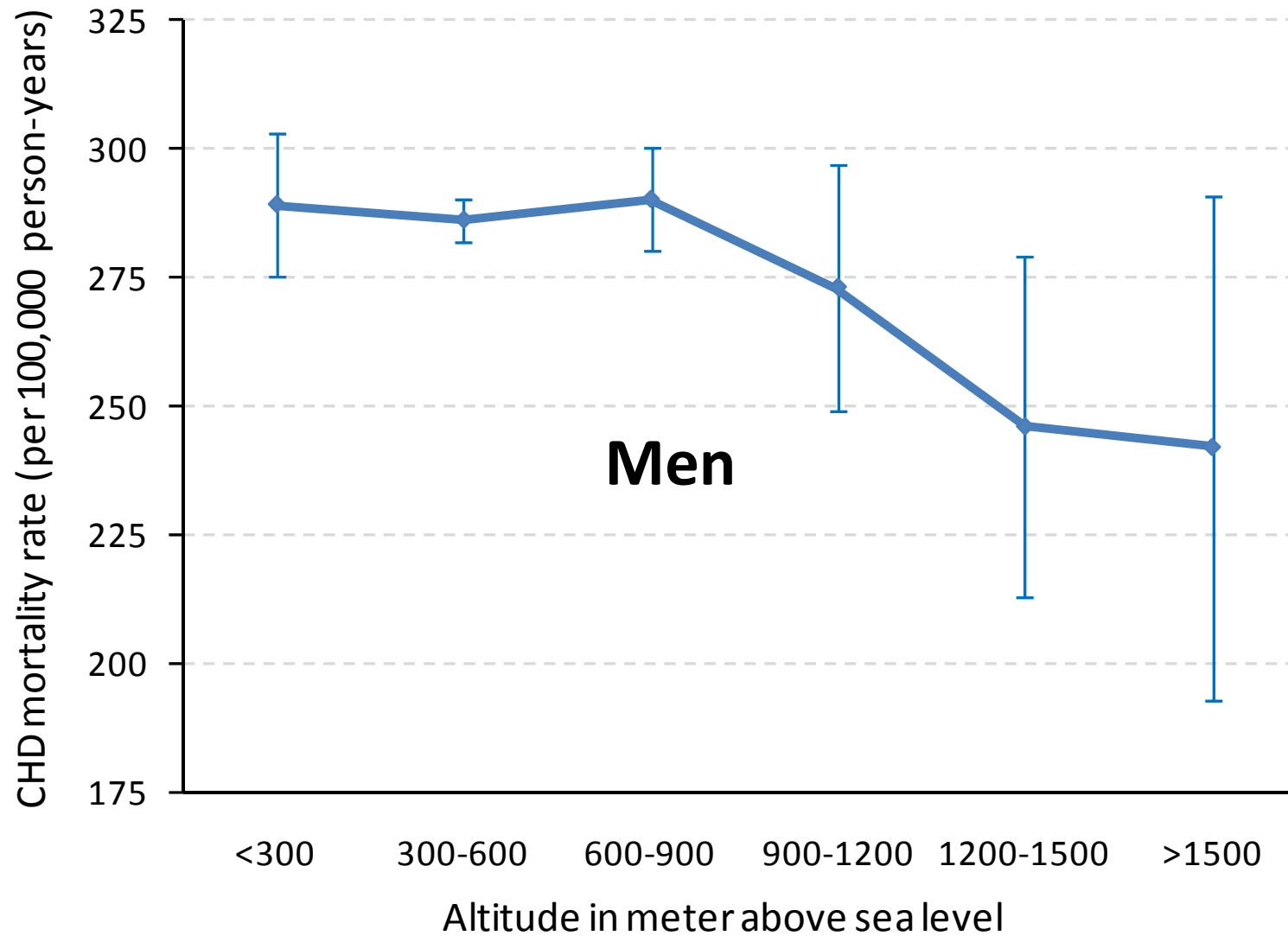
Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

Population

-  census & death registry
- 1.64 Mio ♀ & ♂ from German Switzerland
- Age: 40-84 years
- Altitude: 259-1960 m.ü.M.
- Place of residence and birth
- † coronary heart disease (CHD) and stroke



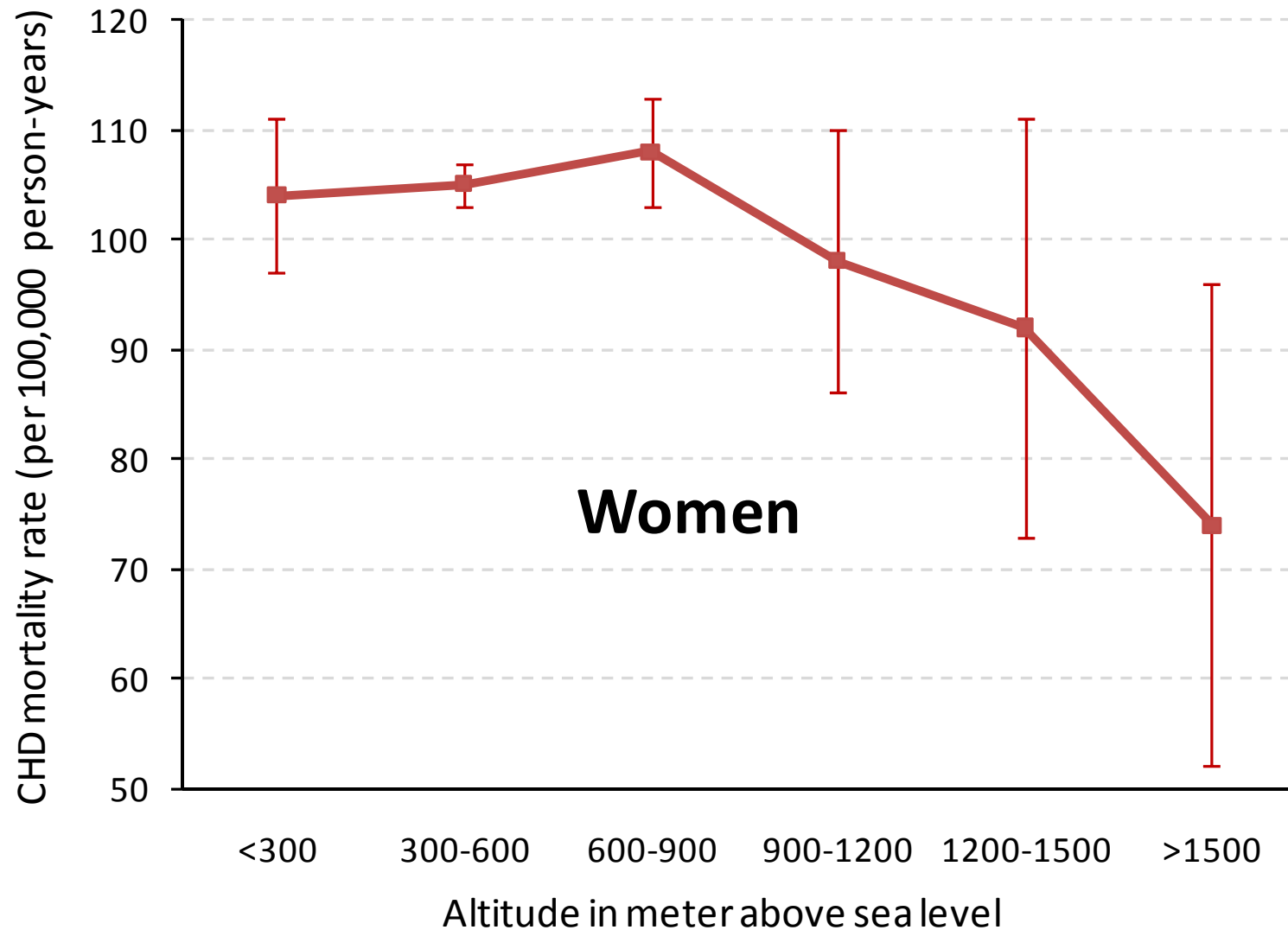
Circulation. 2009 Aug 11;120(6):495-501.

Error bars are 95% confidence intervals

Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin



Circulation. 2009 Aug 11;120(6):495-501.

Error bars are 95% confidence intervals

Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

Results of regression analysis

- Per 1000m of increase in altitude of place of residence
 - CHD mortality decreased by 22%
 - Stroke mortality decreased by 12%
 - Place of birth had an independent effect

Circulation. 2009 Aug 11;120(6):495-501.

Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010

David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich

Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

Possible mechanisms

1. Effect of altitude per se
2. Confounders
3. Effects associated with altitude



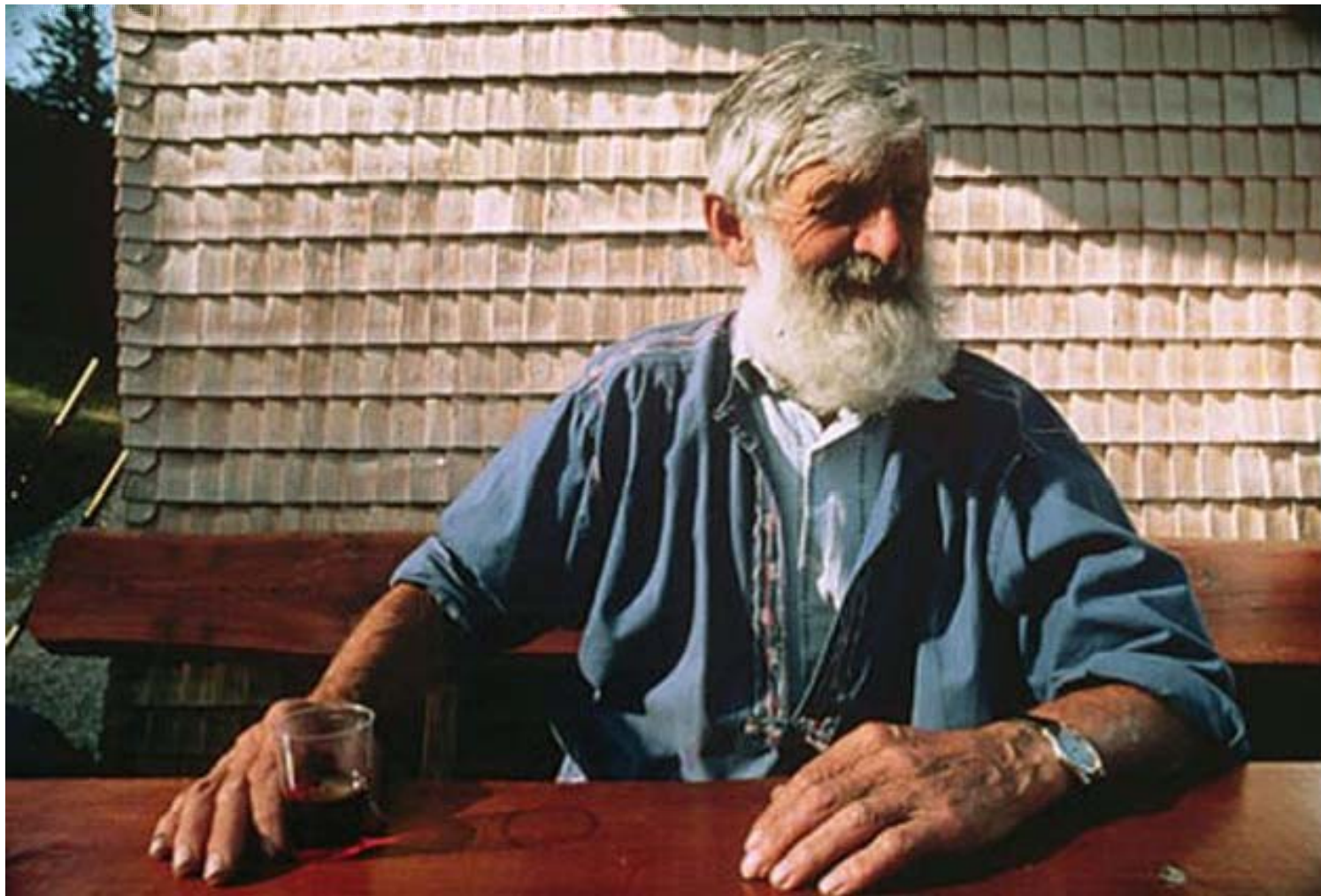
1. Effect of altitude per se

- Lower oxygen partial pressure
- Higher „return of investment“ from physical activity
- In utero cardiovascular adaptations?



2. Confounders





Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin



Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

2. Confounders

- Probably no major differences between altitudes:
 - Obesity
 - Smoking
 - Physical activity
 - Diet
 - Alcohol consumption
 - Diabetes
 - Genetic background



3. Effects related with altitude

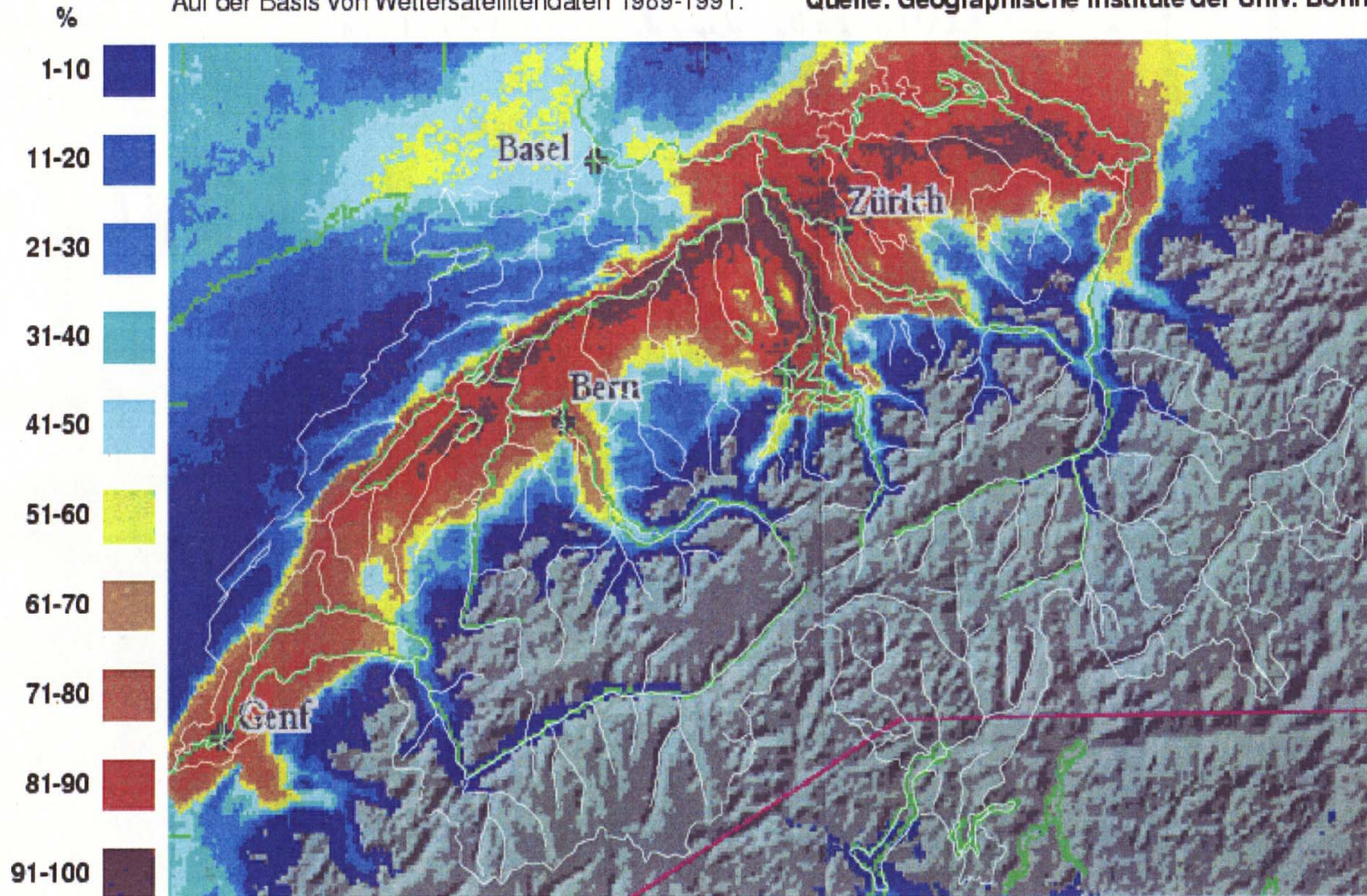


Nebelhäufigkeit in der Schweiz im Winterhalbjahr in % von allen Nebeltagen

bedeutung 100%: Falls eine Nebeltage auftritt, dann hat der Tag einen Nebel

Auf der Basis von Wettersatellitendaten 1989-1991.

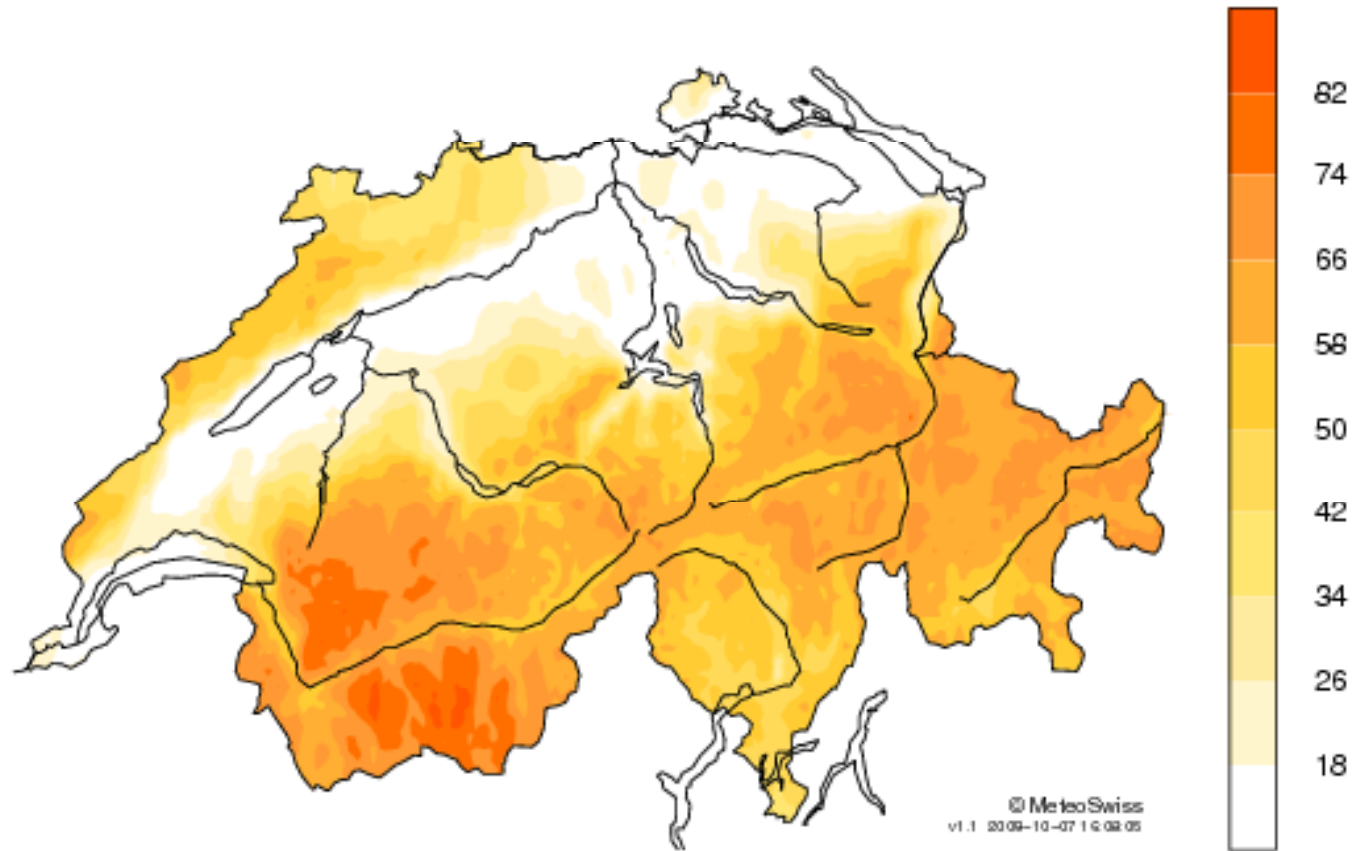
Quelle: Geographische Institute der Univ. Bonn.



Nördlich der violetten Linie wurden 80 Einzelbilder, südlich davon 59 Einzelbilder ausgewertet.

aus: MeteoSchweiz: Nebelhäufigkeit in der Schweiz. Auszug aus: Klimaatlas der Schweiz. Vierte Lieferung, Schweizerische Meteorologische Anstalt 1991

Monthly Relative Sunshine Duration (%) 2009-01

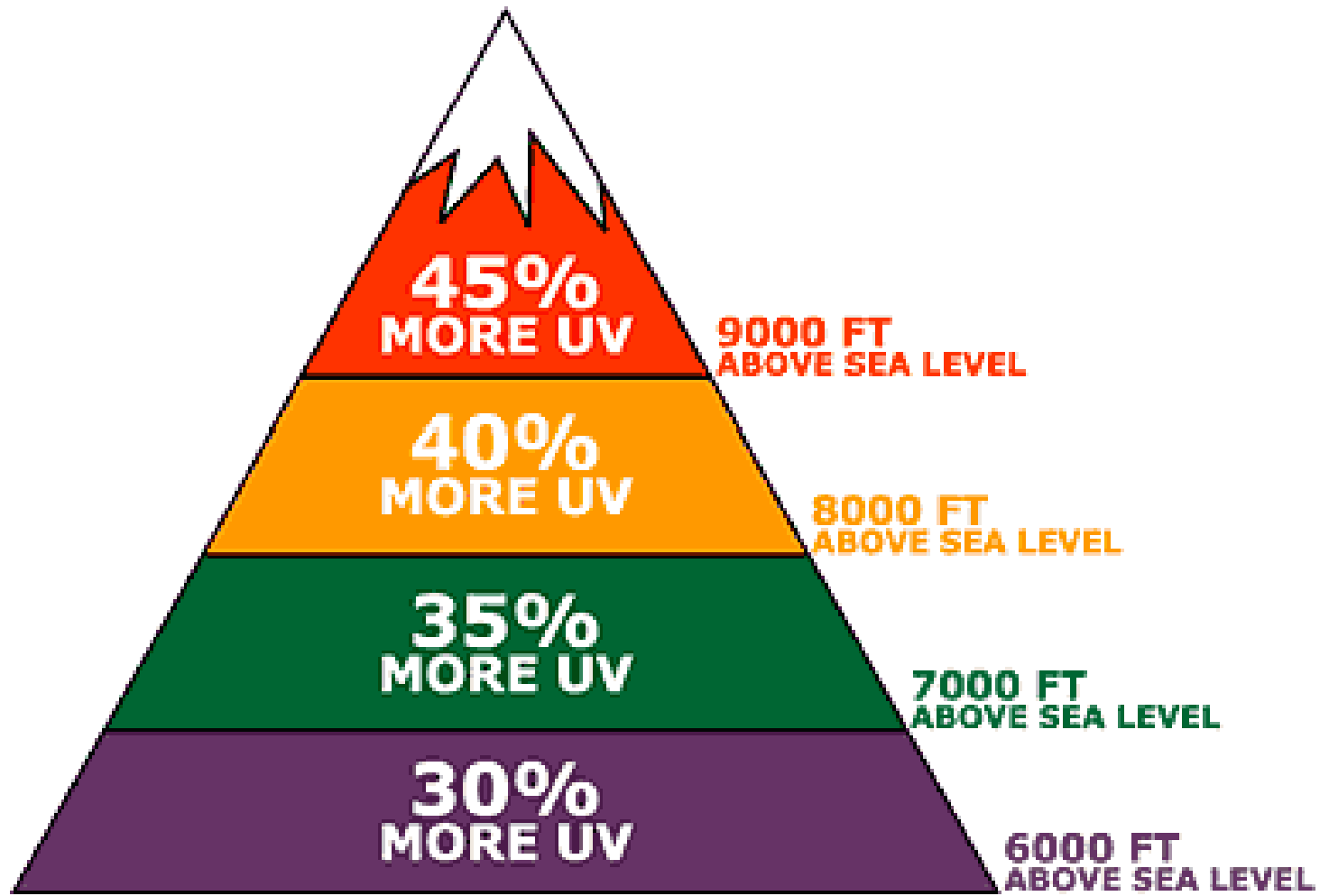




Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin



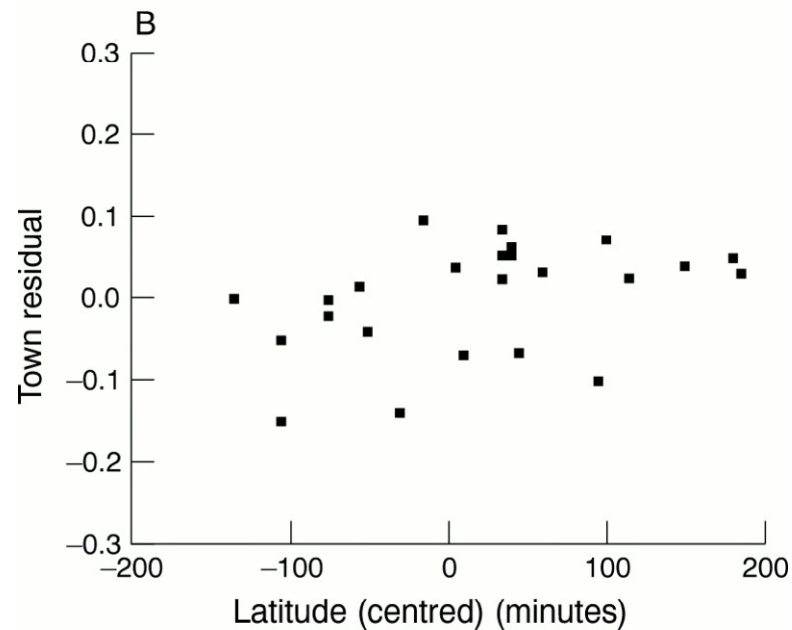
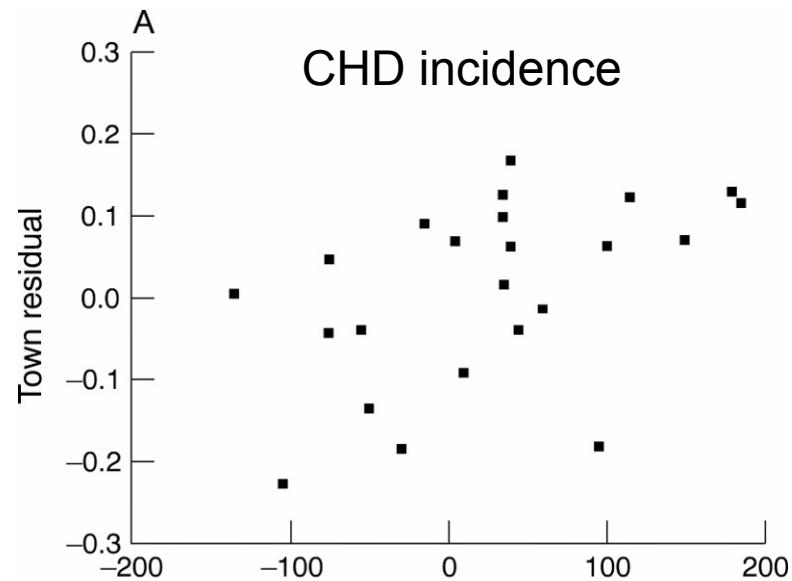
Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

3. Effects related with altitude

- Lower air humidity
 - Less fog
 - Longer sunshine duration (Vit D synthesis)
 - More bearable temperatures
- Thinner atmosphere
 - Higher Sunshine intensity (UV radiation)



Heart 2001;86:277-283 doi:10.1136/heart.86.3.277

Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010

David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich

Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

Other differences by altitude

- Urbanity (large cities at lower altitudes)
- Air pollution (including ozone)
- Access to health care services
- Natural Radioactivity (radon exposure)
- Drinking water
- Noise (traffic)?

Aims

- Disentangle altitude from climate & other factors
- Consider the role of geographical aspect and slope (north vs. south of the alps)?
- Assess the influence of air pollution & noise
- Define “healthy environments” (ideal environmental conditions)



Hypotheses

- Sustained and dose-dependent effect of sunshine exposure
- Sunshine has an effect independent of altitude
- Larger variations in mortality in winter- than in summertime

Possible data sources

Data source	Information
Swiss National Cohort (SNC)	Socio-demographic parameters of individuals enumerated in census Geo-coordinates Subsequent death & cause of death
Swisstopo	Digital terrain model (DTM): geographical aspect, slope
Bundesamt für Meteorologie und Klimatologie (MeteoSchweiz)	Climate data (temperature, air humidity, sunshine exposure, precipitation)
Das Bundesamt für Umwelt (BAFU)	Air pollution and noise models
TeleAtlas	Distance to major roads

Minor priority

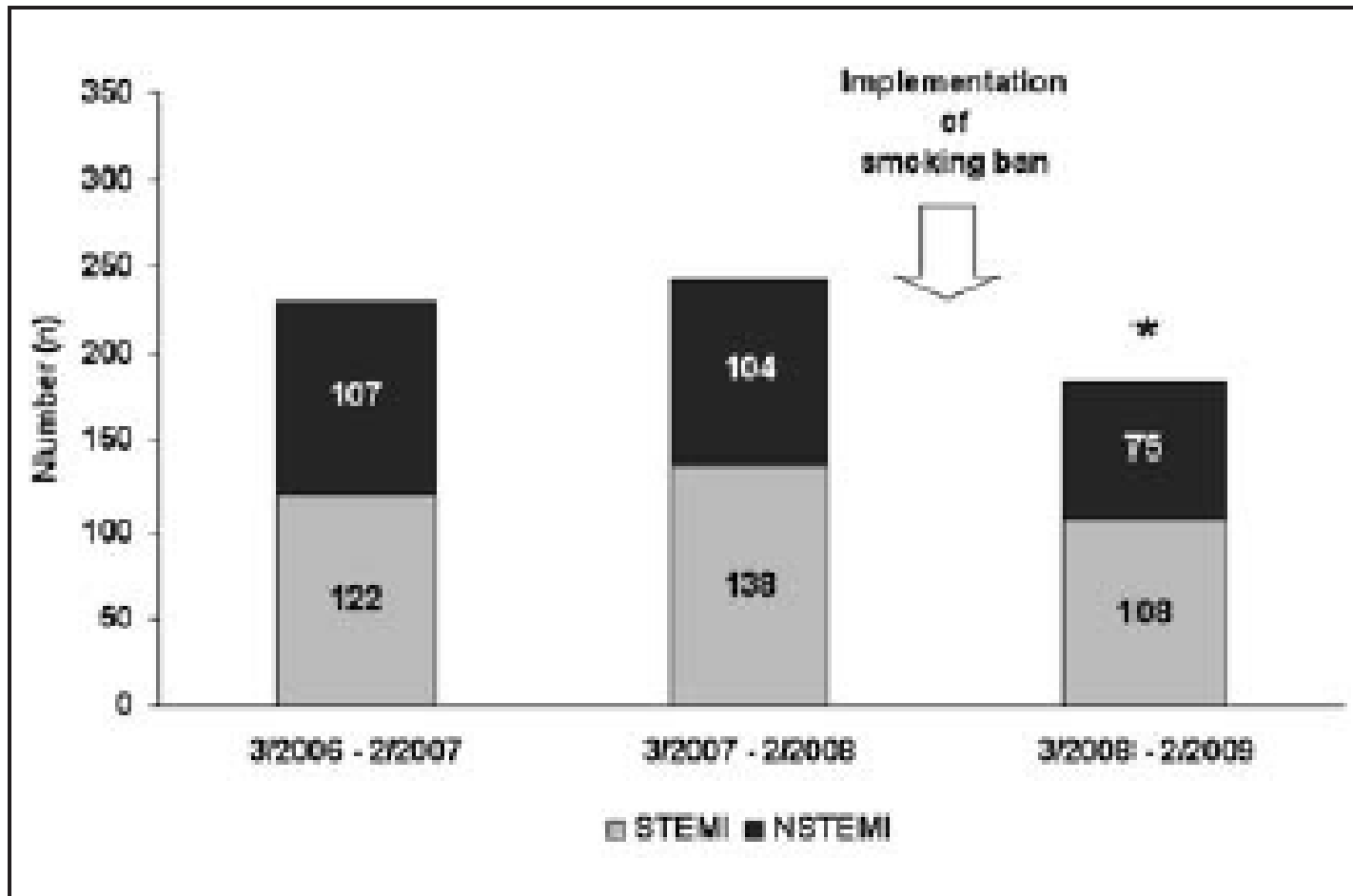
Public smoking ban and trends in smoking-related diseases



What is known

- In various countries: public smoking ban related with decrease in incidence of coronary events
- Graubünden (GR): public smoking ban associated with a subsequent decrease of AMI incidence

* $p < 0.05$ vs. each of the two previous 12-month periods.



SWISS MED WKLY 2010; 140 (9–10):133–138

Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

Cardiovascular risk factor profiles a... x Risk factors for ischaemic and intra... x The CoLaus study: a population-ba... x Rauchverbot in der Gastronomie

Rauchverbote in der Gastronomie

minuten ONLINE infografik

alle Infografiken auf 20 Minuten

Keine oder unbediente Raucherräume Bediente Raucherräume Raucherbetriebe und bediente Raucherräume (Bundesgesetz)

Suchen: 7.0 Abwärts Aufwärts Hervorheben Groß-/Kleinschreibung

www.20min.ch gelesen

Taskbar: Pos..., ad..., En..., Ra..., res..., bas..., res..., Mi..., zu..., sm..., Pap..., AW...

<http://www.20min.ch/interaktiv/rauchverbot/film.html>

Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010

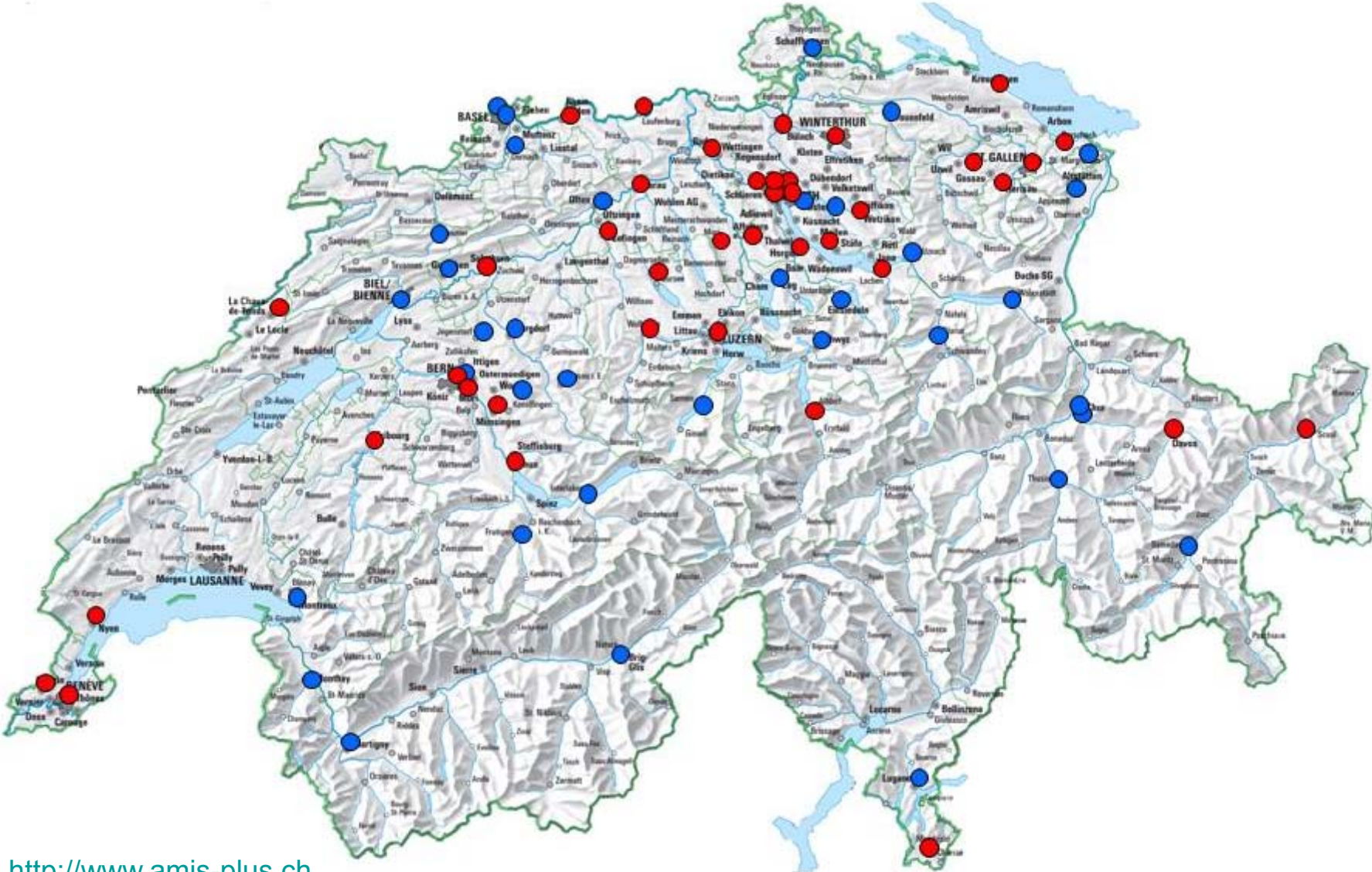
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich

Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin

Red dots: hospitals participating in AMIS Plus



<http://www.amis-plus.ch>

Research questions

- How sustained is the effect from GR?
- What about other cantons?
- What's the impact of smoking ban and of advertisement legislation on
 - selected CVD?
 - respiratory disease?
 - mortality and morbidity?
 - lung and heart function?



Some hypotheses

- Decrease of incidence after smoking ban
 - regional variations according to strictness of
 - smoking ban implementation and
 - advertisement regulation
- Strongest reduction in
 - men
 - persons with low SEP
- Sustained effect



Merci



www.davidfaeh.ch/lehre

Research seminar Swiss TPH, 28.10.2010
David Fäh: Environment and cardiovascular disease in Switzerland



Universität Zürich
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin