SIHOS

[Social Inequalities and Hospitalisations in Switzerland]

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**Challenges**
- How to provide adequate treatment & guidance through the health system for vulnerable groups
- Obtain database with sufficient cases of disadvantaged patients with specific chronic conditions
- Develop record linkage procedures for national health and social data

**Goals**
- Analyze social gradients in use & outcome of inpatient health care for chronic diseases
- Identify which chronic diseases and which disadvantaged groups are concerned
- Analyse pathways into, within and out of inpatient health care

**Research Question and Approaches**
What is the impact of the social dimension on use & related outcomes of inpatient health care?

**I Record Linkage of existing databases**

**II Retrospective Cohorts**
Participants of the structural survey are followed for 1-2 years for hospital stays due to chronic conditions

**III Focus Group Interviews**
- Patients’ and providers’ perspective
- Put quantitative findings into context

**Expected Results**
- Evidence on social gradients in inpatient health care and on vulnerable groups concerned
- Insights into adequate health care and better guidance for disadvantaged populations with chronic diseases
- Basis for monitoring of the social dimension of inpatient health care

→ Enhanced equity of the Swiss health care system