

Management of the COVID-19 health crisis: a survey of Swiss health authorities' responses

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Abstract

The year 2020 was marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, which puts a lot of strain on health systems, including the health authorities. In that context, a systematic review of the Swiss health authorities' actions undertaken, and challenges experienced during the first wave of pandemic was performed to improve pharmaceutical management of future health crises, including subsequent waves.

This survey was the first national-level quantitative study on the specific interventions undertaken by health authorities at time of the COVID-19 pandemic. The findings illustrate the wide range of activities undertaken by such health authorities with regards to crisis management but identified also major areas of concern. The lessons and experiences outlined in our work could be used to better prepare for similar future events or other disasters in Switzerland such as in Europe or in other parts of the World.

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