



Health Information Literacy

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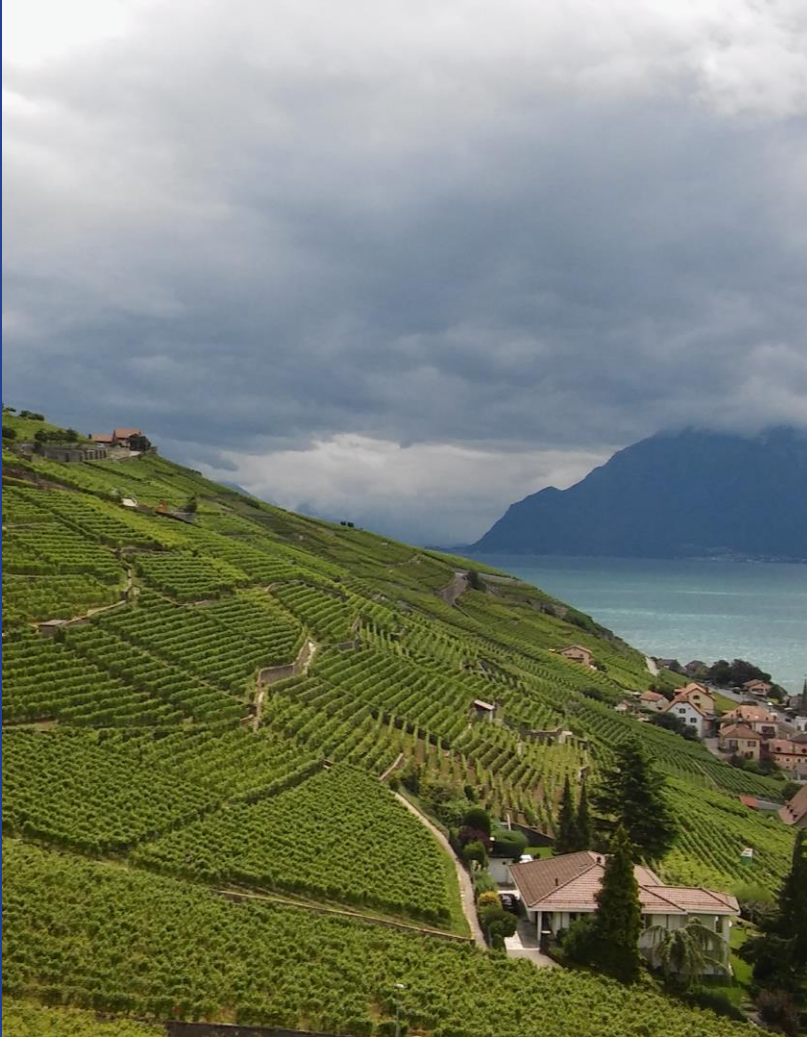
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→ Or
is it?









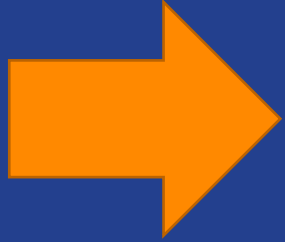
➔ ***How do we know what is healthy?***

➔ ***What do we need to become more knowledgeable about health?***

➔ ***Does Health Information Literacy (HIL) help?***



Objectives of This Special Session



To provide an overview of current empirical research on health information literacy, including interdisciplinary perspectives from information and communication sciences, library sciences, and psychology.



Workgroups from Finland, Germany, and Iceland will present results of their quantitative and qualitative studies.



Health Information Literacy as a Term



A set of abilities that enables individuals to specify their health information needs and to seek, retrieve, evaluate, and use health information to make adequate health decisions.



Combines two constructs from different research traditions: “*health literacy*” and “*information literacy*”.



Research draws on theories and methodologies from both fields.



Focus Areas of the Papers



Assessment of health information literacy: self-report questionnaires (Keränen et al.) and knowledge tests (Mayer)



Examination and identification of predictors and correlates of health information literacy in different age groups, including vocational students (Kuhberg-Lasson & Mayer), older adults (Enwald et al.), and university students (Mayer), and in populations with special information needs (Einarsdóttir & Pálsdóttir)



Health information literacy in different information contexts defined by medium (Huhta et al.) or information topic (Keränen et al.)



Interventions supporting health information literacy (Einarsdóttir & Pálsdóttir)



Towards Research Collaboration



This session could stimulate international research collaboration.



The focus could be, for example, on the translation of research tools with the aim of intercultural comparisons regarding the levels and predictors of health information literacy, behavioral and psychosocial outcomes, and design of interventions.



Enjoy the Session...

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