

Dr. phil. des. Bettina Zimmermann



Career and education

Since 05.2020	Postdoctoral fellow (50%) at the Institute of History and Ethics in Medicine, Technische Universität München, Germany.
Since 04.2020	Postdoctoral fellow (50%) at the Institute for Biomedical Ethics (IBMB), University of Basel (Switzerland). Project title: "A Fair Reimbursement System for Orphan Drugs (FROND)", funded by SAMS Käthe Zingg-Schwichtenberg Fonds.
07.2016- 03.2020	Dissertation , University of Basel, Institute for Biomedical Ethics, Basel (Switzerland) Title: <i>Informed Decision-Making for Genetic Testing: Public Discourse and Individual Choice.</i> (summa cum laude)
09.2014 – 06.2016	Master Molecular Medicine (English, 120 ECTS), Uppsala University, Uppsala (Sweden) <u>Master thesis</u> : Basel University, Department of Biomedicine, Group Primo Schär. Project title: <i>Triggering DNA methylation changes in colorectal cancer cell line upon BRAF mutation induction.</i> (Passed with Distinction)
09.2011 – 06.2014	BSc Biomedical Sciences (German and French, 180 ECTS) University of Fribourg, Fribourg (Switzerland), grade 5.0 <u>Bachelor Thesis</u> : Research Group of Prof. Patrice Nordmann, University of Fribourg Project title: <i>Occurrence of Acquired Antibiotic Resistance among Environmental Bacteria.</i>
09.2008 – 06.2011	BA Media & Communication (German, 90 ECTS) Minor subjects: Business Economics (30 ECTS) and Contemporary History (60 ECTS) University of Fribourg, Fribourg (Switzerland), grade 5.4 Bachelor Thesis: <i>Die PR-Arbeit der Katholischen Kirche im Bistum Basel. Eine Medieninhaltsanalyse.</i>

Extra-Curricular Activities and Awards

Since 08.2016	Member of the Think Tank Reatch – Research and Technology Switzerland (www.reatch.ch). Responsible for Basel section since Mai 2017. Organisation of multiple events, writing of policy papers, project management and fundraising skills.
2012-2020	Scholarship from the Swiss Study Foundation (www.studienstiftung.ch).
05.2015	Member of the organization committee IBANGS Meeting Uppsala (international research conference)

Most recent research publications (peer reviewed journals)

2020	Zimmermann BM, Starke G, Shaw D, Elger B, Koné I (2020) Actionability and scope should determine the extent of counselling for presymptomatic genetic testing. <i>Swiss Medical Weekly</i> , forthcoming.
2020	Zimmermann BM, Shaw D, Heinimann K, Knabben L, Elger B, Koné I (2020) How the "control-fate continuum" helps explain the genetic testing decision-making process: a grounded theory study. <i>European Journal of Human Genetics</i> , in press. doi: 10.1038/s41431-020-0602-3

2020	Zimmermann BM, Kolb S, Zimmermann F, Elger B, Shaw D (2020) Influence of content, events and culture on the public discourse about medical genetics in Switzerland – a quantitative media content analysis. <i>Communication & Medicine</i> , forthcoming.
2019	Zimmermann BM, Elger B and Shaw D (2019) Media coverage of ethical issues in predictive genetic testing: a qualitative analysis. <i>AJOB Empirical Bioethics</i> , forthcoming. doi: 10.1080/23294515.2019.1670275
2019	Zimmermann BM, Aebi N, Kolb S, et al. (2019) Content, evaluations and influences in newspaper coverage of predictive genetic testing: A comparative media content analysis from the United Kingdom and Switzerland. <i>Public understanding of science</i> 28(3): 256–274. doi: 10.1177/0963662518816014
2019	Zimmermann BM, Koné I, Rost M, et al. (2019) Factors associated with post-acute discharge location after hospital stay: a cross-sectional study from a Swiss hospital. <i>BMC health services research</i> 19(1): 289. doi: 10.1186/s12913-019-4101-6
2018	Koné I, Zimmermann BM, Nordström K, Elger BS and Wangmo T (2018) A scoping review of empirical evidence on the impacts of the DRG introduction in Germany and Switzerland. <i>The International journal of health planning and management</i> . doi: 10.1002/hpm.2669
2018	Koné I, Zimmermann BM, Wangmo T, Richner S, Weber M and Elger B (2018). Hospital discharge of patients with ongoing care needs: The current situation using data from a city hospital under SwissDRG. <i>Swiss Medical Weekly</i> , 2018 Jan 29;148:w14575. doi: 10.4414/smw.2018.14575.

Research conferences with contributions

09.2019	Zimmermann, B., Elger, B., Shaw, D. (presented by Bettina Zimmermann). Talk: “To what extent should the public be informed about genetic and genomic testing possibilities?” European Association of Centres of Medical Ethics (EACME) conference, Oxford, UK.
06.2019	Zimmermann, B., Elger, B., Shaw, D. (presented by Bettina Zimmermann). Poster: “Most issues covered but not in their full complexity: A newspaper content analysis of ethical issues in predictive genetic testing.” European Society for Human Genetics (ESHG) conferences, Gothenburg, Sweden.
06.2018	Zimmermann, B., Kolb, S., Aebi, N., Elger, B., Shaw, D. (presented by Bettina Zimmermann). Poster: “Who has a say in mass media coverage of predictive genetic testing? A comparative media content analysis in the UK and Switzerland.” European Society for Human Genetics (ESHG) conferences, Milan, Italy.
09.2017	Zimmermann, B. Talk: “Genetik in den Schweizer Printmedien”. ScienceComm (Swiss National Science Communication Conference), Solothurn, Switzerland.
06.2017	Zimmermann, B., Kolb, S., Shaw, D., Elger, B. (presented by Bettina Zimmermann) Talk: “Perception of genetics among the public: a content analysis of Swiss media”. Communication, Medicine and Ethics (COMET) conference, Indianapolis, USA.
05.2017	Zimmermann, B., Kolb, S., Shaw, D., Elger, B. (presented by Bettina Zimmermann) Talk: “Genetic Testing in Public Discourse”. SCOPES (Scientific co-operation between Eastern Europe and Switzerland) conference, Chisinau, Moldova.

Grants, awards and scholarships

11.2019	CHF 48'690.00 Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences, Käthe Zingg-Schwichtenberg Fund
09.2019	CHF 7'235.00 Personal grant from FAG Basel for finalizing the dissertation.
07.2017- 06.2019	CHF 2'867.00 Travel grants for research conferences, University of Basel
06.2019	European Conference for Human Genetics, Gothenburg 2019: Best Poster Award.
2012 - 2020	Scholar of the Swiss Study Foundation (www.studienstiftung.ch).
07.2007	Kantonsschule Wil (SG): Award for the best graduation grade (5.4*)

Outreach activities

07.09.19	Invited as speaker at the public event "rendez-vous science", organized by reatch and The Swiss academies of arts and sciences. https://www.rendez-vous-science.ch/
03.05.18	Podium: Zimmermann, B., Ienca, M., Kraemer, P. nanoTalks Basel: Reading brains, reading choices? Basel, Switzerland. https://www.reatch.ch/de/content/nanotalks-basel-reading-brains-reading-choices
05.04.18	Workshop: Zimmermann, B., Jegmirat, J. The Genetic Oracle: Prevention at all Costs? Basel, Switzerland. https://www.reatch.ch/de/content/rrh-genetic-oracle-prevention-all-costs
14.03.18	Workshop: Zimmermann, B., Wittwer, J., Gruppendiskussion: Humangenetische Beratung. Bern, Switzerland. https://www.reatch.ch/de/content/gruppendiskussion-humangenetische-beratung
24.10.17	Workshop: Zimmermann, B., Tschäni, M., Weber, P., Schuler, A., Köhler, C. Genetik im Alltag: Top oder Flop? Basel, Switzerland. https://www.reatch.ch/de/content/rueckblick-genetik-im-alltag-top-oder-flop
25.09.17	Blog article: Zimmermann, B. Moral enhancement: illegal brain doping or ethical duty? reatch blog. https://www.reatch.ch/de/content/moral-enhancement-illegal-brain-doping-or-ethical-duty