

# How early life experiences and children's psychobiology affect health

### Prof. Dr. Abbey Alkon

University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing, USA Director of the California Childcare Health Program (CCHP)

Wednesday, 11 June 2014, 17:30 to 18:30 Room TN EO.54, Technikumstrasse 71, 8400 Winterthur



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#### Prof. Dr. Abbey Alkon

Abbey Alkon, RN, PNP, PhD is a professor at the University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing and Investigator at the University of California, Berkeley's Center for Environmental Research and Children's Health. She is an epidemiologist and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner who works on multi-disciplinary research teams. Her research focuses on understanding how children's exposure to adversity early in life and the children's physiologic responsiveness to their environments affect their health. Her studies include children from ethnically-diverse, low-income families. Dr. Alkon is also the Program Director of the California Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Program and Director of the California Childcare Health Program (CCHP). CCHP is dedicated to improving the quality of child care by providing service, education, and research on health and safety issues for health and child care professionals

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Dr. Alkon will share her research findings on children's early life experiences, psychobiology and health. Children growing up in adverse living conditions, such as single parent households and poverty, experience negative health outcomes starting early in life. These adverse experiences affect children's psychobiology by changing their biological sensitivity to stress and adversity. For some children who are biologically sensitive, experiencing adversity in life affects their mental and physical health later in life.

Eine Zusammenfassung des Referats in deutscher Sprache steht zur Verfügung.