

CURRICULUM VITAE

Sanja Musić Milanović

Personal Information

Current employer #1	School of Public Health dr. Andrija Štampar, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb
Since	2011
Position	Associate Professor at the Department for Medical Statistics, Epidemiology and Medical Informatics
Current employer #2	Croatian Institute of Public Health
Since	2004
Position	Head of the Health Promotion Division
Profession	Medical Doctor, epidemiology specialist
Expertise	Epidemiology of non-communicable diseases, specifically obesity, and health promotion
Residence	Croatia

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Short Profile / Summary

Medical doctor, epidemiology specialist, scientist and university professor with a distinctive mix of managerial, academic and public health knowledge, experiences and skills, strengthened during the 27+ years of professional career. The most relevant expertise for the particular assignment is listed below:

- Head of the Health Promotion Division at the Croatian Institute of Public Health, Reference Centre of the Ministry of Health for Health Promotion, and the Head of National health promotion programme Healthy Living that was co-funded by European Social Fund:
 - Founded the Health Promotion Division at the Croatian Institute of Public Health and advocated for health promotion as a health discipline
 - Led the process of creating a complex, multisector National health promotion programme Healthy Living that has been adopted by the government in 2015
 - Ensured co-funding by the European Social Fund for the Healthy Living programme (Dec 2016 – Sep 2023). The European Social Fund grant was 30,373,299.36 HRK. As project leader manages a team of 18 associates and coordinates activities with 21 partner institutions, i.e. all County Institutes of Public Health in Croatia.
 - All five components of the programme (Health Education, Health and Physical Activity, Health and Nutrition, Health and Workplace, Health and the Environment) are continuously implemented in the entire country and several interventions that are part of the programme have been internationally recognized as best practice models. One of the interventions within the programme is the Healthy Living Front-of-Pack Nutrition label that has been recognized on a European level (more information available in [a scientific paper published in the journal Nutrients](#)).
- Teaching and academic experience:
 - Head of the Postgraduate Specialist Study “Epidemiology” at the University of Zagreb, School of Medicine
 - Associate Professor at the Department for Medical Statistics, Epidemiology and Medical Informatics
 - Teaches epidemiology, methodology and public health on various university studies and courses
- Experience with various professional and research projects:
 - Principal investigator in a large cross-sectional study by the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative, Croatia (CroCOSI)
 - Associate teacher on the ESF project Improving curriculum at Community Service Institute, Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology - developed and taught public health modules, Wifi Croatia and Fraunhofer Institute Germany
 - Expert on the Health Sector Enhancement Project: Improvement of Health Sector Management Capacities (World Bank) in Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - Lecturer on the Data Science and Right to Science School and Conference that is organized by School of Public Health dr. Andrija Štampar in cooperation with several international partners

Professional Activities

- 2011-present **School of Public Health dr. Andrija Štampar, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb**
Teaching/research assistant (2011-2014), Assistant Professor (2014-2020), Associate Professor (2020-present) at the Department for Medical Statistics, Epidemiology and Medical Informatics
- Head of Postgraduate Specialist Study “Epidemiology” at the University of Zagreb, School of Medicine where she leads the courses “Advanced epidemiologic methods”, „Applied Epidemiology “ and „Health promotion, health education and health communication”.
 - Teaches in the following courses
 - on the integrated undergraduate and graduate study of medicine: „Epidemiology“, „Introduction to Scientific Research”, „Community health“, „Obesity and treatment“
 - on the graduate study of nursing: “Research and research methods”, “Applied research in nursing”, “ Research methodology and evaluation of health interventions”
 - on the postgraduate study of public health: “Statistic and epidemiologic methods in public health”
 - on the postgraduate study of family medicine: „Epidemiology for family doctors“.
 - Associate on a research project financed by the University of Zagreb “Importance of stability of BMI and arterial pressure in assessing cardiovascular risks”
 - Board member of the Postgraduate program of professional studies in medicine “Leadership and Management of Health Services” where she teaches “Statistics and Epidemiology in Health Care Quality Management”
 - Active member of the Committee for graduate theses, final exams and graduate exams and the Faculty Council for postgraduate studies
 - Mentor of many graduate theses
- 2004-present **Croatian Institute of Public Health, Zagreb, Croatia**
Head of the Health Promotion Division, Head of the Reference Centre of the Ministry of Health for Health Promotion
- Leads implementation of the National health promotion programme Healthy Living
 - Ensures financing for health promotion activities
 - Leads a team that:
 - prepares necessary guidelines and recommendations in the area of health promotion that partner institutions can use
 - creates appropriate templates and/or educational and promotional material
 - ensures expert assistance and support to behaviour change programmes
 - encourages creating conditions that make a healthier lifestyle more attractive and available than other options,
 - Participates in various working groups and government bodies on writing strategic national documents, action plans and legislative acts in the area of health promotion, for example the Action Plan on Obesity Prevention in Croatia and National Guidelines for Nutrition in Elementary Schools
 - Coordinates cooperation with other sectors (education, food industry, agriculture...)
 - Organizes the process of monitoring and evaluating specific interventions
 - Leads the implementation of the research project by World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe „Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative – COSI” in the Republic of Croatia
 - Associate on international research projects “Health Behaviour in School-aged Children” and „European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs“.
 - Associate on a research project by the Ministry of science, education and sport of the Republic of Croatia “Regionalism of cardio-vascular behavioural risks – intervention model”
 - Associate on a research project funded by the Croatian Science Foundation “Croatian Islands’ Birth Cohort Study”

- Led the implementation of the following projects: “European Health Interview Survey - EHIS”, “European Health Examination Survey - EHES”, “Health Educational Projects COMunity - HEPCOM”
 - Co-led research projects by the Ministry of science, education and sport of the Republic of Croatia “Croatian health survey of children and youth 2003/2014: cohort study”, „Study of adolescent lifestyle habits with the aim of preventing obesity, diabetes type II and cardiovascular diseases”.
- 1996-2004 **Andrija Štampar Teaching Institute of Public Health**, Epidemiology resident, Epidemiology department (1996-2001), Head of Health Statistics and NCD Division, Public Health department (2002-2003), Head of Health Promotion Division, Public Health Department (2003-2004), Zagreb
- associate on research projects by the Ministry of science, education and sport of the Republic of Croatia “Incidence of pollen allergies by spatial units of the City of Zagreb and Zagreb County”, “Incidence of pollen allergies by spatial units of the Republic of Croatia”, “Croatian Adult Health Survey 2003”
- 1994-1996 **“Sveti Duh” General hospital**, Junior research assistant
- associate on the research project by the Ministry of science, education and sport of the Republic of Croatia “Surgical treatment of morbid obesity”

Education and Qualifications

2012	Postgraduate course “The Art of Medical Education”, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb
2002-2010	Postgraduate doctoral study in Biomedicine and Health, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb
1997-1999	Master of Science in Public Health Methodology, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Faculté de Médecine, École de Santé publique, Bruxelles
1993-1994	Postgraduate study Ultrasound in Hepatology and Gastroenterology
1987-1993	Medical Degree, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb

Language Proficiency

English	Fluent
French	Intermediate
Croatian	Mother tongue

Professional Affiliations / Special Appointments

- Member of the WHO Regional Director for Europe’s Advisory Council on Innovation for Noncommunicable Diseases ([NCD Advisory Council](#)) and a member of the Childhood Obesity Signature Initiative developed as part of the NCD Advisory Council
- National Focal Point in several health promotion topics including the EU Physical Activity Focal Points Network, and the Expert Group „Health Enhancing Physical Activity”, National Technical Focal Point of WHO for Promoting health throughout the life-course as well as National Technical Focal Point of WHO for Obesity and Nutrition-related activities
- Member of the Scientific Council for Anthropological Research at the Croatian Academy of Arts and Sciences and a board member of the Croatian Obesity Society

Publications (selection)

- In addition to presentations in conferences and events, published numerous articles in the international, peer review press
 - For full list of publications, please refer: <https://www.croris.hr/crosbi/searchByContext/2/2185?lang=en>