1. Exploring these challenges, together

New public health challenges and the digital revolution are changing global health practices. Together with all participants, the GHF wants to explore these challenges, and in particular to:

- Ensure better knowledge and understanding of the tools, changes to practices, and challenges
- Present current initiatives from the field
- Work together to identify opportunities for change and to identify risks
- Encourage meetings between the digital world and health providers
- Put forward actions, create opportunities, foster partnerships and develop frameworks.

To this end, we would like to encourage you to participate in the 7th edition of the Geneva Health Forum, presenting your experiences, your research, and your tools.

2. New approaches to global health are required

The remarkable progress made in recent decades has enabled a reduction in mortality rates, particularly in the fight against major pandemics (HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and more), as well as in mother and child health.

Despite these successes, many challenges remain, including the development of resistance to anti-infective drugs, the threat of epidemics, and the high cost of certain treatments. The epidemiological transition currently underway in many countries, plus the globalisation of trade and migration, urbanisation, climate change, and the ageing population, all require us to revise our traditional approaches and offer more effective treatments that take better account of social and environmental factors.

Major global health agendas such as the sustainable development goals, universal health coverage, improvements in medical research, and better access to health products cannot be properly addressed unless we are prepared to change the ways in which we work.

3. New tools are revolutionising the landscape

Meanwhile, information and communication technologies are disrupting our everyday life.

Healthcare is very much a part of this information revolution. The major players in digital and communications technology (Google, Apple, IBM, Facebook, Microsoft, Orange, etc.) are investing heavily in the medical sector. From the internet to data science, artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things and satellites, numerous tools are being developed. But such technologies are much more than just tools; they are profoundly changing the way in which we work. The entire organisation of the health system, treatment practices, and relationships between stakeholders are all affected.

These changes apply to rich countries but also to those with limited resources, where new technologies are already helping to overcome certain structural deficiencies.

Some see it as a mean to achieve more precise, participatory, and effective health interventions. Others doubt, stressing the importance of the relationship with the patient and the influence of public health policies.

Good or bad, change is underway. Such tools can represent opportunities, but also dangers if clear rules are not set and new strategies are not properly evaluated. Legal, ethical and economic issues must be addressed.

In the future, we will need to develop decision-making tools to ensure more efficient and effective healthcare, and to establish a more specific, appropriate and targeted approach through what can be referred to as “Precision Global Health”.

**CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

Oral presentations - Scientific posters – Young researchers’ posters

*Facing new global health challenges, how the digital revolution will shape public health practices and interventions for greater accuracy, participation and efficiency?*
Leveraging digital innovations for quantum leaps in global health.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL CHALLENGES
- Resistance to antibiotics
- Epidemic threats
- Chronic diseases
- Ageing

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES
- Humanitarian crises
- Climate change
- Migration
- Urbanisation

ORGANISATIONAL CHALLENGES
- Access to quality health products
- Research & development
- Universal Health Coverage
- Sustainable Development Goals

NEW DIGITAL TOOLS
- Data science
  - Communication
- 3D Printers
- Genomics
- Artificial intelligence
- Blockchain
- Machine learning
- Biomarkers
- Mobile health, Health Apps
- Diagnostics
- Non-medical data
- Internet of Things

CHANGES IN GLOBAL HEALTH PRACTICES
1. Health systems
2. Access to precision medicine
3. Health actors
4. Data science
5. New information channels

To submit your abstract: http://call.ghf2018.org
5 areas will be explored as a priority to respond to epidemiological, environmental and organizational challenges.

1. Precision health systems
   1.1 Implications for health system governance
   1.2 Access to health services, sustainable economic models
   1.3 Training
   1.4 Legal implications
   1.5 Digital epidemiology
   1.6 Prevention

2. Access to precision medicine
   2.1 New diagnostic strategies
   2.2 Personalized treatments
   2.3 Innovative health products
   2.4 Healthcare pathway
   2.5 Safety and quality of care

3. The actors
   3.1 Governance and collective regulation
   3.2 Community citizenship, health and participatory science
   3.3 The engaged patient
   3.4 The health care actors
   3.5 Other actors

4. Digital health sciences
   4.1 Sharing data and methods
   4.2 Access and dissemination of knowledge
   4.3 Data science (telecommunication operator, remote sensing, internet of objects, big data...)
   4.4 Research, development and sharing of precision health products

5. New channels of information
   5.1 Social mobilization
   5.2 Patient community
   5.3 MOOCs and mass training
   5.4 Training in remote areas or in humanitarian context
   5.5 Training on new tools
   5.6 Information society: risks and threats
Abstracts shall be submitted online at http://call.ghf2018.org; submissions by fax, post or email will not be considered. The call for contributions is open to all stakeholders in global health: health professionals, specialists in health economics, ethics, social sciences, new digital technologies, data sciences etc ...

Abstract structure
The abstract should be in English or French. The title of the abstract is limited to 250 characters. The text of the abstract is limited to 2500 characters, including spaces and acknowledgments.

The abstract should be structured in 4 parts:
- **Introduction, Objective**: Describe the context of your work and clearly indicate the purpose and objective of the abstract.
- **Methods**: Clearly describe your selection of observations or experimental subjects.
- **Results**: Present the findings/outcomes of the study in a logical sequence in the text.
- **Conclusions**: Emphasize new and important aspects of the study (perhaps as a discussion section) and its conclusions. Tables and figures are not accepted.

Young Researcher Posters
In order to value the young researchers, a specific time will be reserved for poster authors developing their work in the course of their study (PhD, Master, Doctorate ...). The best posters will be presented in a dedicated session «My Research in 180 seconds. Outstanding scientific and young researcher posters will awarded with the “Jet d’Or de Genève.”

Scholarships
A limited number of scholarships to participate in the GHF may be granted to participants from low and middle income countries whose oral presentation has been accepted by the selection committee.

Calendar:

**Deadline for submission:**
September 15, 2017

**Notification:**
from 1 November 2017

**Date of GHF2018:**
April 10-12, 2018

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