



Round Table Discussion:
**Disentangling social inequalities around access and vaccine hesitancy for COVID-19
vaccination uptake in Sub-Saharan Africa: Preparation of a scoping review**

Thursday, April 7, 2022
10:00 – 11:30am
Room M5383 (Uni Mail)

Michael J. Deml^{1,2} (michael.deml@unige.ch)
Jennifer Githaiga² (jennifer.githaiga@uct.ac.za)
Vladimir Jolidon¹ (vladimir.jolidon@unige.ch)

¹ Institute of Sociological Research; Department of Sociology, University of Geneva

² Division of Social and Behavioural Sciences, School of Public Health & Family Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town

Objectives of the Round Table

- To gather researchers interested in social inequalities in healthcare access and COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in Sub-Saharan Africa
- To discuss an ongoing scoping review project on the scientific literature related to COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and vaccine access issues in Sub-Saharan and establish potential collaborations.

Background

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the literature on vaccine hesitancy and vaccine uptake was conducted in high-income, Western countries. The relatively few studies from low- and middle-income countries pre-dating the COVID-19 pandemic have tended to focus on issues related to low levels of health literacy, access issues, social inequalities, rumors about vaccination, and non-biomedical approaches to medicine in certain settings of these countries. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has globally been an explosion of research on COVID-19 vaccine intentions and the determinants of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and uptake. The scoping review project seeks to map out the current state of this scientific literature in Sub-Saharan Africa.

We invite interested researchers to attend this Round Table, join the discussion and establish potential collaborations for the next stages of the project, which will involve the scale development of a systematic measurement tool to measure COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and social determinants of COVID-19 vaccine uptake.

This Round Table discussion is supported by a Research Partnership Grant funded by Leading House Africa, which aims to further develop, consolidate, and expand relations and foster new collaborations between Swiss researchers and partners in Africa.

Due to limited room space, please write to Michael Deml (michael.deml@unige.ch) if you plan to attend in person. Virtual attendance will be possible at the following Zoom link:

<https://unige.zoom.us/j/62015034322>