



Universität  
Zürich UZH

ETH zürich

USZ Universitäts  
Spital Zürich

UNIVERSITÄTS-  
KINDERSPITAL  
ZÜRICH

Balgrist

Universitätsklinik

Psychiatrische  
Universitätsklinik Zürich

## Communication of «Hochschulmedizin Zürich»

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**Zurich, April 8, 2022 – After more than ten years of successful operation, «Hochschulmedizin Zürich» will be gradually transferred to newer structures and will be liquidated by the end of 2024.**

During the past ten years, «Hochschulmedizin Zürich» (HMZ) has developed into a strong instrument for promoting collaboration between the University of Zurich, ETH Zurich and the four University's hospitals. The situation in Zurich is unique, and this potential has been leveraged at various levels:

HMZ has linked people from different disciplines in dedicated formats at countless events, workshops and brainstorming sessions, thus kick-starting exceptional research projects. With the direct financial support of small seed projects and, at a later stage, with the annually awarded large interdisciplinary flagship projects endowed with CHF 1 million, a further incentive for collaboration was created. Eight HMZ flagship projects were supported in total. All of them have advanced successfully to date. They acquired substantial third-party funding and continue their innovative path. The older projects have all expanded beyond Zurich, in some cases also internationally. The first spin-off companies were founded based on the projects.

In addition, HMZ has also been active in developing new structures. Several joint networks and competence centers were initiated, supported or established by HMZ.

The promotion of young scientists has always been a major objective of HMZ. Particularly within the framework of the HMZ flagship projects, young scientists get the opportunity to meet researchers from other disciplines at an early career stage and to learn about their approaches and options. HMZ also supported the curriculum development in medicine and health sciences. In 2021, the "HMZ Award – The PhD team challenge" was awarded for the first time to an inter-institutional team of PhD students.

The HMZ, represented by the managing office, was decisively involved in various working groups as an inter-institutional partner in other topics such as the planning of the Zurich University District and the development of the University Medicine Zurich (UMZH).

During the last three years, new structures have been promoted in Zurich. Some of them overlap with HMZ and pursue similar goals. Particularly close is the research center "The LOOP Zurich" supporting large interdisciplinary projects in the field of precision medicine, and the UMZH as a strategic network of the two Universities and the four University's hospitals.

The University of Zurich, ETH Zurich, University Hospital Zurich, University Children's Hospital Zurich, Balgrist University Hospital and Psychiatric University Hospital Zurich have therefore jointly decided to terminate «Hochschulmedizin Zürich» by the end of 2024 with a three-year liquidation phase and to gradually transfer the successful activities of HMZ to the newer structures, thus further consolidating the cooperation and strengthening the medical hub Zurich. Let us use this potential together!

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