# Stefanie Kirchner, MPH MSc PhD

**Personal Data**

Stefanie Kirchner, MPH MSc PhD

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**Main areas of Research & Most Important Scholarly Achievements:**

Suicide Research, Mental Health Promotion, LGBTIQ+ Mental Health, Epidemiology, Social Epidemiology, Media Psychology, Health Communication

First to test effects of media narratives targeting LGBTQ+ youth (together with Thomas Niederkrotenthaler, Benedikt Till, and Martin Plöderl)

**Education and Training**

*2018-2022* Doctoral Programme of Philosophy (PhD), thematic programme ‘Public Health’, Medical University of Vienna (MUV)

* Additional electives in Statistics and Crisis Intervention & Suicide Prevention
* Title of PhD thesis: “Effects of ‘It Gets Better’ suicide prevention videos targeting LGBTQ+ adolescents” under the supervision of Assoc.-Prof. Priv.-Doz. Dr. Thomas Niederkrotenthaler, PhD, MMSc (the project was funded by the Austrian Science Funds, FWF, project no. P30918-B27, PI: Thomas Niederkrotenthaler)
* Graduation with a grade point average of 1.0 (equals graduation with distinction)

*2017-2021* Master of Science in Epidemiology (MSc), University of London (UoL)/London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

* Focus: Statistics and Epidemiology of non-communicable diseases
* Title of Master’s Thesis: “An ecosocial approach to test the association between social insecurities and mental well-being in Europe from 2003 to 2016 – A repeated cross-sectional study” under the supervision of Prof. Martin McKee, MD, MSc, DSc

*2013-2015* Master of Public Health (MPH), Medical University of Vienna (MUV)

* Internships in Sports science and in health promotion at the workplace
* Title of Master’s Thesis: “Power Napping als gesundheitsförderliche Maßnahme zur Verbesserung von Leistung und Wohlbefinden bei Schülerinnen und Schülern an allgemein höher bildenden Schulen [Power Napping as health promoting intervention to increase performance and well-being in Austrian high schools” under the supervision of Assoc.-Prof. Priv.-Doz. Dr. Stefan Seidel
* Scholarship recipient of Fonds Gesundes Österreich (FGÖ)

*2009-2012* Bachelor of Science in Health Studies (BSc), FH Campus Wien

* Focus: Health promotion
* Graduation with distinction

**Positions and Employment**

*Since 2021* Affiliated Researcher, Research group Mental Health and Social Integration (MENTE), Division for Insurance Medicine, Karolinska Institutet (KI), Stockholm, Sweden

*Since 2018* Postgraduate Researcher, Unit Suicide Research & Mental Health Promotion, Center for Public Health, Medical University of Vienna (MUV), Vienna, Austria

*2016-2018* Project manager, Department of Infectious Epidemiology, Department of Tobacco Control, Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES), Vienna, Austria

*2015-2016* Project assistant, Department of Organ Transplantation and Donation, Austrian Public Health Institute (GÖG), Vienna, Austria

*2012-2015* ICU Nurse, Department of Internal Medicine I, General Hospital of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

**Further activities**

Collaborations in scientific projects:

*Since 2023* EU Horizon Project Respond (Grant Agreement No. 101016127), Conducting studies within Work Package 2: Identifying risk and resilience groups

Reviewing activities:

Crisis – The Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention, BMC Public Health, Journal of Adolescent Health, Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology, Journal of Qualitative Health Research, Frontiers in Psychology, LGBT Health, Journal of Affective Disorders Reports, Death Studies, Psychological Medicine, International Journal of Circumpolar Health

Other reviewing activities:

*Since 2023* Expert “Public Health” to review submissions to the IRB of the Medical University of Vienna

Teaching activities:

*Since 2022* “Umgang mit Stress [Coping with Stress]”, Study of human medicine, summer semester, block 6, Medical University of Vienna (MUV)

*Since 2020* “Assessment von Demenz und Depression [Assessment of Dementia and Depression]”, Study of human medicine, winter semester, block 22/23, Medical University of Vienna (MUV)

**Selected conferences and lectures**

23rd World Conference of the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) 2023, oral presentation on “Suicide-related media reporting with a focus on sexual and gender minority identities – a content analysis of the quality of reporting” and “Experiences of suicide survivors with sharing their stories about suicidality and overcoming a crisis in media”, Piran, Slovenia

Papageno Media Award, lecture on “Verantwortungsvolle Berichterstattung zum Thema Suizid: Die Arbeit des Presserates und die Wirksamkeit der Medienzusammenarbeit [Responsible suicide media reporting: the work of the Austrian Press Council and the effectiveness of media cooperation]”, Vienna, Austria

19th European Symposium for Suicide and suicidal Behavior (ESSSB) 2022, oral presentation on “Effects of ‘It Gets Better’ suicide prevention videos on LGBTQ+ youth: a randomized controlled trial” and poster presentation on “Associations of suicide-related media reporting characteristics with help-seeking and suicide in Oregon and Washington”, Copenhagen, Denmark

Conference of the German Association for Psychiatry and Psychotherapy (DGPPN) 2021, Oral presentation on “Effects of ‘It Gets Better’ suicide prevention videos on LGBTQ+ youth: content analysis, focus groups and a randomized controlled trial”, Berlin, Germany

14th European Public Health Conference (EUPHA) 2021, oral presentation on “Effects of ‘It Gets Better’ suicide prevention videos on LGBTQ+ youth: a randomised controlled trial”, virtual

2021 Suicide Research Summit (IASR/AFSP), oral presentation on “Effects of ‘It Gets Better’ suicide prevention videos on LGBTQ+ youth: a randomised controlled trial”, virtual

5th Online conference of the Coordination Office Suicide Prevention (SUPRA) – Suicide Prevention and Covid-19 2021, oral presentation on “SARS-CoV2: Mental Health in Österreich, eine Studie in 12 Befragungswellen [SARS-CoV2: Mental Health in Austria, a cross-sectional survey in twelve waves]”, virtual

31st World Conference of the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) 2021, oral presentation on “Effects of ‘It Gets Better’ suicide prevention videos on LGBTQ+ youth: a randomized controlled trial”, virtual

30th World Conference of the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) 2019, oral presentation on “’It Gets Better’ videos for suicide prevention in LGBTIQ+ adolescents: Content analysis of German-language videos”, Londonderry, United Kingdom

**Prizes & Awards**

*2022* Dr. Maria-Schaumayer-Stiftung Award for PhD thesis “Effects of ‘It Gets Better’ suicide prevention videos targeting LGBTQ+ adolescents”

*2019* Veronika Fialka Moser Diversity Award: 3rd place in the category „Science“ for Stefanie Kirchner, Benedikt Till, Martin Plöderl, & Thomas Niederkrotenthaler for the project „Effects of It Gets Better suicide prevention videos targeting lesbian, gay, bisexual and questioning (LGBQ) adolescents“ (PI: Thomas Niederkrotenthaler)

**Associations and selected activities**

*Since 2023* Young-Science Science Ambassador for OeAD GmbH (Austria’s Agency for Education and Internationalisation)

*Since 2023* Member of International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP)

*Since 2021* Alumni ambassador at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

*Since 2019* Board member of the Wiener Werkstätte for Suicide Research ([www.suizidforschung.at](http://www.suizidforschung.at))

*Since 2015* Member of the Austrian Public Health Association (ÖGPH)

Member of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA)

*2023* Member of the organizing committee of the Public Health Early Career Researcher Day at the Center for Public Health, Medical University of Vienna

*2018-2021* Student ambassador at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

*2018- 2019* Co-founder of the special interest group “Early Career Public Health Researcher”, Austrian Public Health Association (ÖGPH)