

Evolutionary Medicine: Concepts and anatomical perspectives

Evolutionary medicine is a novel medical field based on concepts from evolutionary biology and its related fields. The aim is to better understand human health and disease from a historic and prehistoric perspective. The aim of this presentation is to present the main fundamental concepts of the emerging field of evolutionary medicine such as trade-offs or relaxed natural selection as well as to present some current research in this field. Specifically, the impact of evolutionary thinking on the human morphology will be discussed. This evolutionary perspective has relevant impact on future human health and shall be exemplary incorporated into global health policies.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Frank Rühli, MD, PhD is Founding Chair (Full Professor) and Director of the Institute of Evolutionary Medicine, University of Zurich. He is also an Honorary Visiting Professor at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Nanyang Technological University Singapore, an Honorary Adjunct Professor at the Adelaide Medical School, The University of Adelaide, Australia, and a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran. He has been a research associate at the Human Evolutionary Biology Department, Harvard University and a visiting full professor at the Institute of Global Health, University of Geneva. Prof Rühli is a steering committee member of two University Research Priority Programs and a member of the Medical Faculty and the Science Faculty, both at the University of Zurich. His main research interest lies in the field of paleopathology (esp. mummy studies) and evolutionary medicine (esp. ongoing human evolution), anatomy, academic governance and health policy. Frank Rühli has acquired ca. 18 million USD of third-party funding as PI or Co-PI and he has (co-) authored ca. 200 scientific publications. He serves in multiple professional bodies, editorial boards and political organizations (e.g., currently as President, Health Care Commission, Free Democratic Liberal Party Switzerland). Prof Rühli holds also an Executive MBA degree and he serves in the rank of a lieutenant colonel responsible for Medical Scenarios, Staff Operative Training, Swiss Armed Forces. He is married and has one son.

Prof. Dr. Dr. med. Frank Rühli, EMBA

Founding Chair and Director
Institute of Evolutionary Medicine Faculty
of Medicine, University of Zurich
Switzerland



Tuesday
04 June 2019
10.30am - 11.30am
Seminar Room, MD10
Level 2, Anatomy Museum