



**Franck Chauvin**  
President of the High Council for Public Health.

# Quick, independent and multidisciplinary

*The High Council for Public Health in France consists of renowned experts from a wide variety of disciplines and assists France's leading decision makers in the field of public health.*

The French High Council for Public Health (Haut Conseil de la Santé publique – HCSP) comprises renowned, independent experts from highly diverse disciplines, ranging from doctors and economists to chemists, engineers and sociologists. Its main task is to assist with decision-making in the field of public health. It prepares reports and especially submits recommendations to decision-makers at the Ministry of Health. However, the High Council for Public Health can also be consulted by interested ministers in other departments and by the chairpersons of relevant parliament committees on any matter relating to prevention, health security and the performance of the health system. It is actually involved in all areas of public health, from emerging infectious diseases, to the environmental impact on health, chronic diseases and the organisation of the health system.

## A long tradition

Although a law from 2004 forms the basis of the HCSP in its current form, it looks back on a long tradition: it succeeded the 'Conseil supérieur d'hygiène publique de France', which had existed since 1848, and the 'Haut Comité de la santé publique', which had been created in 1991. The law dated 26 January 2016 on the modernisation of the French health system sets out

'The HCSP provides public authorities with forward-looking thinking.'

FRANCK CHAUVIN,  
PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH HIGH COUNCIL FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

its current missions. These particularly include contributions:

- to the development, annual monitoring and multiannual evaluation of the French National Health Strategy (which can be accessed at [solidarites-sante.gouv.fr](http://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr))
- and to the development of a comprehensive and concerted child health policy.

## Forward-looking thinking

'The HCSP provides public authorities with forward-looking thinking and, owing to its multidisciplinary expertise, it has a broad approach to the problems that need to be treated,' emphasises *Franck Chauvin*, who is a cancer prevention specialist and has been President of the High Council for Public Health since April 2017. HCSP is composed of 79 qualified persons and 21 representatives of administrations and health agencies. It is organised in 4 specialised committees that focus on the topics of infectious diseases, chronic diseases, the environmental impact on health, and also the health system and patient safety. 'Our biggest strengths include our structure and our established working process, but also the fact that we are able to respond so quickly to the need for clarification on urgent issues – for example, in the case of issues related to emerging infectious diseases,' summarises Franck Chauvin.

## HIGH COUNCIL FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

**Headquarters:** Paris  
**No. of employees:** 12  
**Main task:** Assistance with decision-making in the field of public health  
**Annual budget:** €350,000 (without staff salaries)  
**Website:** [www.hcsp.fr](http://www.hcsp.fr)