

---

## Vincent Wietlisbach, 1949–2004

*Vincent died on October 15th, 2004, after a short and harsh fight against cancer. He was aged 55. He is survived by Fabienne, his wife, and their two children, Alice and Joelle. Vincent also leaves shocked colleagues, here in Lausanne and elsewhere. Vincent means a great deal to those who worked with him.*

*Initially trained in econometrics at the University of Geneva, Vincent Wietlisbach rapidly developed his skills in statistics and medical epidemiology when he joined the Lausanne Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine in 1978. He was first associated with Bernard Junod to develop the epidemiology of non-infectious diseases. In this line, he became a prominent member of the Swiss MONICA team, working with Martin Rickenbach and Felix Gutzwiller. He made significant contributions not only to the work of the Swiss team, but also to the wider aspects of the WHO MONICA Project, a major international project on the epidemiology of cardiovascular disease and its determinants. He was very generous in sharing his expertise and devoted selflessly his time to the overall success of the project. He was the ultimate team*

*player. Since the mid-nineties, he worked on epidemiological transition in developing countries, in particular in the Seychelles, with Pascal Bovet. He also became involved in health care evaluation (especially in studies on quality of care and appropriateness of care), collaborating with Bernard Burnand and others in this field.*

*Vincent Wietlisbach was a shrewd researcher and a talented writer. In every area he visited during his career, he brought significant contributions through substantial papers published in good journals. Apart from cardiovascular epidemiology, Vincent wrote on quality of care, clinical epidemiology, and geriatrics. He was also an active member of the Institute, engaged in the training of younger colleagues and in the management of the Institute.*

*Many of us within the Institute, the WHO MONICA family, and the wider circle of his collaborators will remember Vincent both as a scientist and as a friend. We'll miss him deeply and our heartfelt condolences go to his family.*

**Fred Paccaud, Lausanne**



To access this journal online:  
<http://www.birkhauser.ch>

---