Stephan Harbarth earned his medical degree from Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich, Germany, in 1993 and completed his residency in internal medicine and tropical medicine at Munich University Hospitals. After serving as a clinical fellow in the Infectious Diseases Division and Infection Control Program in the Department of Internal Medicine at Geneva University Hospitals, Dr Harbarth completed his master’s degree in epidemiology at Harvard University in Boston. He is board certified in infectious diseases and was appointed associate professor at the University of Geneva in 2010. Dr Harbarth’s work has garnered several awards, including the ICAAC Young Investigator Award from ASM (2003), the Young Investigator Award from ESCMID (2006), the Swiss Society for Infectious Diseases Award for epidemiological research (2008 & 2011), and the SHEA Investigator Award in 2011.

Control of antibiotic resistance – research activities
Our group is currently conducting several clinical and epidemiological studies to evaluate key questions related to the control of the acquisition, transmission and infection by multidrug-resistant microorganisms. We participate in several ongoing large-scale EU-funded studies (R-GNOSIS, Rapp-ID, AIDA, COMBACTE, DRIVE-AB) to address this important public health threat. We collaborate closely with the Genomics Research Laboratory at HUG, based on a productive translational research platform. The most notable examples of our research are the evaluation of different MRSA control interventions (JAMA 2008, BMJ Open 2013), the advanced analysis of epidemiologic trends and the health-economic burden of multi-resistant microorganisms (JAC 2011, ICHE 2013), the conduct of epidemiologic studies linking patient data with molecular investigations (Clin Infect Dis 2011, ICHE 2014), the evaluation of antibiotic stewardship interventions (Lancet Infect Dis 2010, JAC 2011) and several placebo-controlled, randomised clinical trials to decolonise MRSA and ESBL carriers (JAC 2013, JAC 2015).

Research funding & staff
- Non-permanent research personnel (2014): 9.4 FTE

Publication record
- Current h-index (Dec 2015): 52
- Sum of Times Cited without self-citations (Dec 2015): 10'962
- Peer-reviewed original research articles (2010-2015): 81
- Total number of publications (2010-2015): 158
Recent key publications (2011-2015)


• A.S. Lee; B.S. Cooper; A. Chalfine; G.L. Daikos; C. Fankhauser; B. Jovanovic; S. Lemmen; S. Malhotra-Kumar; J. A. Martinez; C. Masuet Aumatell; A. Pan; G. Phillips; B. Rubinovitch; H. Goossens; C. Brun-Buisson; S. Harbarth. Comparison of Strategies to Reduce MRSA Rates in Surgical Patients: A Controlled Multicenter Intervention Trial. *BMJ Open* 2013; 3(9): e003126 (IF: 2.1).
