

1 **Additional file 3a:** Comparison of the ranking of substantive research topics between public health researchers versus public health practitioners –
2 all three criteria for substantive research topics combined
3 (A difference in minus means the research topic is ranked higher by public health researchers; a difference in plus means the research topic is ranked higher by
4 public health practitioners).
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Research topic	Rank PH research	Rank PH practice	Difference in ranking	Difference in actual score
Interventions in settings / setting-changing measures	1	1	0	-0.24
Health in all policies	2	2	0	-0.02
Social inequality and injustice	3	4	-1	-0.05
Community-based prevention and health promotion	4	6	-2	-0.09
Implementation research	5	5	0	-0.05
Impact of health policy measures	6	3	3	0.01
Improving health care	7	11	-4	-0.17
Intervention studies over longer periods of time	8	9	-1	-0.07
Effectiveness of municipal / community-oriented approaches	9	10	-1	-0.03
Health and children/youth/family	10	18	-8	-0.15
Research with focus on specific target groups	11	23	-12	-0.22
Health literacy promotion	12	7	5	0.04
Interdependencies between society, setting and individual health	13	14	-1	-0.04
Health and ageing	14	12	2	0.00
Knowledge translation	15	19	-4	-0.07
Patient and user orientation	16	22	-6	-0.10
Environment/climate change and health	17	20	-3	-0.04
Work and health	18	28	-10	-0.21
Global health and effects of globalisation	19	13	6	0.07
Governance (global, national, regional) and health systems	20	33	-13	-0.27
Mental health	21	30	-9	-0.20
Digitisation and health	22	8	14	0.18
Disability and multimorbidity	23	34	-11	-0.26
Life course perspective	24	27	-3	-0.13
Research on health care needs	25	24	1	-0.03
Influence through economisation and interest groups	26	17	9	0.10

Prevention of non-communicable diseases	27	16	11	0.13
Health communication	28	15	13	0.16
Migration health	29	25	4	0.02
Sustainability	30	32	-2	-0.10
Health policy analysis	31	26	5	0.00
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	32	38	-6	-0.12
Behaviour change measures	33	40	-7	-0.14
Resilience	34	35	-1	-0.07
Nutrition and health (cultural, physiological, social)	35	21	14	0.18
Diversity and gender	36	31	5	0.06
Self-help	37	45	-8	-0.22
Research on health professions	38	36	2	0.07
Health reporting	39	37	2	0.10
One Health	40	39	1	0.08
Effectiveness of counselling at the individual level	41	42	-1	-0.09
Health economic evaluation	42	43	-1	-0.01
Infectious diseases and vaccination protection	43	29	14	0.30
Accidents, violence, self-harm	44	46	-2	-0.13
Population perspective on pharmaceuticals	45	41	4	0.13
Public health crises and disasters	46	44	2	0.07
Average			0.00	-0.04

Additional file 3b: Comparison of the ranking of methodological-theoretical research topics between public health researchers versus public health practitioners – all three criteria combined
(A difference in minus means the research topic is ranked higher by public health researchers; a difference in plus means the research topic is ranked higher by public health practitioners).

Research topic	Rank PH research	Rank PH practice	Difference in ranking	Difference in actual score
Complex interventions	1	3	-2	-0.23
Interdisciplinary research	2	1	1	-0.15
Evidence-based public health research	3	4	-1	-0.14
Transdisciplinary research	4	10	-6	-0.30
Further development of intervention studies	5	5	0	-0.19
Participation in health research	6	6	0	-0.10
Structural and process indicators	7	18	-11	-0.33
Causal analyses / experiments	8	22	-14	-0.34
Process evaluation	9	24	-15	-0.32
Systematic reviews	10	12	-2	-0.12
Population participation	11	7	4	0.05
Indicators for the quality of health care and public health	12	2	10	0.24
Indicators of quality of life and of positive health states	13	19	-6	-0.24
Indicators of health literacy	14	13	1	-0.08
Conceptualization of behaviour/relationship	15	23	-8	-0.26
Development and maintenance of good health	16	8	8	0.09
Methodological research on registry and routine data	17	16	1	-0.11
Sociological aspects of health	18	20	-2	-0.16
Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER)	19	17	2	-0.13
Theoretical foundation of effects models	20	28	-8	-0.37
Internationally comparable indicators	21	9	12	0.12
Qualitative health studies	22	11	11	0.06
Research on public health theories	23	29	-6	-0.38
Big Data	24	15	9	0.07

Action research	25	26	-1	-0.05
Indicators for health targets	26	25	1	-0.03
Preventive markers	27	27	0	-0.01
Modelling studies - Decision Analysis	28	14	14	0.26
Mobility concepts	29	30	-1	-0.16
Online Social Research	30	21	9	0.28
Average			0.00	-0.10