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"science.apa.at" gefunden am 12.07.2019 11:11 Uhr

# EU-Gesundheitssysteme: Umverteilung von Ressourcen dringend notwendig

**Wien (LBG) - Ein Rückzug aus Über- und Fehlversorgung zugunsten von "High Value"-Gesundheitsversorgung kritisch für Nachhaltigkeit solidarisch-finanzierter Systeme. Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Health Technology Assessment in europäischem ExpertInnen-Panel vertreten.**

Im Auftrag der Europäischen Kommission sprechen internationale GesundheitsexpertInnen jetzt eine Reihe an Empfehlungen aus, die die Umverteilung in Gesundheitssystemen auf eine echte, wertebasierte Grundlage stellen sollen. Beim aktuellen Druck, Ressourcen effizienter zu nutzen, kann ihrer Meinung nach die europäische Solidargemeinschaft für das Gesundheitssystem nur so nachhaltig gewahrt bleiben. Das Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Health Technology Assessment aus Wien war in dem Panel durch seine Leiterin, Priv. Doz. Dr. phil. Claudia Wild, vertreten.

10 bis 34 Prozent der Ressourcen im Gesundheitswesen werden verschwendet. So zumindest die Schätzung der OECD\*. Vor dem Hintergrund von Ressourcenknappheit besteht Grund zur Sorge, dass aufgrund fehlerverwendeter Ressourcen die Gesundheitsversorgung für alle bereits gefährdet ist. "Value-based healthcare" wird immer häufiger als Lösung diskutiert. Diese "wertebasierte Gesundheitsversorgung" bezeichnet eine Strategie, Ressourcen im Gesundheitswesen dort einzusetzen, wo sie den meisten (Mehr-)Wert schaffen. Doch wie genau dieser (Mehr-)Wert definiert wird, bleibt unter ExpertInnen wie in öffentlichen Debatten meist unklar. Die Europäische Kommission bat daher hochkarätige internationale GesundheitsexpertInnen um eine Analyse, wie dieser Wert definiert werden und wie das Konzept "wertebasierte Gesundheitsversorgung" zu einem effektiveren, zugänglicheren und nachhaltigeren Gesundheitssystem beitragen kann. Mit im Panel dabei - eine Vertreterin des Ludwig Boltzmann Instituts für Health Technology Assessment (LBI-HTA) in Wien.

Solidarität als tragender Wert europäischer Gesundheitssysteme

"Kurz gesagt empfehlen wir, die wertebasierte Gesundheitsversorgung entlang der Leitprinzipien der solidarischen Gesundheitssysteme in Europa zu definieren", sagt Priv. Doz. Dr. Claudia Wild, Leiterin des LBI-HTA und dessen Vertreterin im ExpertInnen-Panel. "Damit schlagen wir eine Alternative zu den derzeit diskutierten Definitionen vor, die Gesundheitsergebnisse in Relation zum Geldeinsatz oder zu den individuellen Einschätzungen von PatientInnen setzen." Tatsächlich befanden die ExpertInnen des Panels diese - zum Teil aus den USA stammenden - Definitionen als zu eng und den Solidaritätsaspekt der europäischen Gesundheitsversorgung außer Acht lassend. Für sie sollte eine wertebasierte Versorgung vielmehr auf 4 Säulen ruhen:

1. Persönlicher Wert: Eine Versorgung, die dem Erreichen persönlicher Ziele von PatientInnen angemessen ist.
2. Technischer Wert: Das Erreichen bestmöglicher Ergebnisse mit den verfügbaren Ressourcen.
3. Allokationswert: Eine gerechte Verteilung der Ressourcen über alle PatientInnen-Gruppen hinweg.
4. Gesellschaftlicher Wert: Einen Beitrag zur sozialen Teilhabe leisten.

Bewusstsein über Wert solidarischer Gesundheitssysteme schafft Nachhaltigkeit

Auch die finanzielle Nachhaltigkeit der allgemeinen Gesundheitsversorgung analysierten die ExpertInnen und schlagen dazu nun eine langfristige Strategie der Ressourcen-Umverteilung vor. Diese beruht auf der Entwicklung eines stärkeren Bewusstseins für Gesundheit als wesentliche Investition in das Wohlergehen der europäischen Gesellschaft - aber auch auf dem Etablieren eines konsistenten Sprachgebrauchs, wenn es um relevante Begriffe wie (im Deutschen)

"Verschwendung", "Angemessenheit", "Gerechtigkeit und gleicher Zugang" u.v.a.m. geht. Dr. Wild führt weiter aus: "Wir empfehlen auch die Ausbildung von so genannten"Change Agents", also von Führungskräften, die diesen Prozess maßgeblich mittragen und -gestalten sollen, sowie Investitionen in die Steuerung, das Monitoring und die Bewertung von Ressourcen-Umverteilungen."

Weitere Empfehlungen des als "EC Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health (EXPH)" bezeichneten Panels sind:

- Forcierung der F&E zur Angemessenheit und Über- wie Fehlversorgung von Gesundheitsversorgung.
- Gründung von "Communities of Practice", um Praktiken zu vergleichen und Gesundheitsfachkräfte zu ermutigen, Verantwortung nicht nur für einzelne PatientInnen, sondern Patientengruppen zu übernehmen.
- PatientInnen-Initiativen mit unvoreingenommener, objektiver Information zu unterstützen, um informierte Entscheidungen zu ermöglichen.

Insgesamt geben die ExpertInnen mit ihren Empfehlungen der internationalen Auseinandersetzung zur wertebasierten Gesundheitsversorgung eine neue, auf die europäische Gesellschaftsordnung zugeschnittene Perspektive. Die Berufung einer Vertreterin des LBI-HTA in das international renommierte Gremium unterstreicht dabei dessen internationalen Ruf im Bereich des Health Technology Assessments.

Referenzen:

Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in Health (EXPH) 2019: Defining value in "value-based healthcare". Opinion.

[https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert\\_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev\\_20190604\\_frep\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev_20190604_frep_en.pdf)

\*OECD 2017: Tackling Wasteful Spending on Health. Report. [https://www.oecd.org/health/tackling-wasteful-spending-on-health-978\\_9264266414-en.htm](https://www.oecd.org/health/tackling-wasteful-spending-on-health-978_9264266414-en.htm)

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"pharmabiz.com" gefunden am 12.07.2019 14:37 Uhr

## Reallocation of resources is urgently needed in healthcare system, says EU

**The International health experts on behalf of the European Commission are now making a series of recommendations designed to place reallocation in healthcare systems on a real, value-based foundation. With the current pressure to utilize resources more efficiently, they believe that the European solidarity-based healthcare system can only be sustained in this way. The Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Health Technology Assessment (LBI-HTA) from Vienna was represented on the Panel by its director, Priv. Doz. Dr. phil. Claudia Wild.**

According to an OECD estimate, 10 to 34 per cent of healthcare resources are wasted. In view of the increasing scarcity of resources, there is concern that universal health care may be endangered as a result of misused resources. Value-based healthcare is increasingly being discussed as a solution. This "value-based health care" designates a strategy to use healthcare resources where they create the most value. But just how precisely this (added) value is defined remains unclear among experts and in public debates. The European Commission has asked high-profile international health experts to analyse how this value is defined and how the value-based healthcare approach can contribute to a more effective, accessible and sustainable healthcare system. A representative of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Health Technology Assessment (LBI-HTA) in Vienna is participating on the Panel.

"In short, we recommend defining value-based healthcare along the guiding principles of solidarity-based healthcare systems in Europe", says Priv. Dr. Doz. Claudia Wild, Director of the LBI-HTA, and its representative on the Expert Panel. "We thereby propose an alternative to the definitions currently under discussion that relate health outcomes to monetized inputs and to individual patient experiences". In fact, the Panel experts found these definitions — some of them originating from the US — to be too narrow and to disregard the solidarity aspect of European healthcare. These experts are of the opinion that value-based healthcare should instead rest on four value pillars: Personal value: appropriate care to achieve patients' personal goals. Technical value: achievement of best possible outcomes with available resources. Allocative value: equitable resource distribution across all patient groups. Societal value: contribution of healthcare to social participation and connectedness.

The financial sustainability of the general healthcare system was also analysed by the experts, who now suggest a long-term strategy of resource reallocation. This is based on the development of a greater awareness of health as an essential investment in the well-being of European society —but also on the establishment of a consistent language when dealing with relevant terms such as "waste", "in/appropriate care", "in/equity and equal access" and many more. Dr. Wild states: "We also recommend the training of 'change agents', that is, leaders who are to significantly support and shape this process, as well as investments in piloting, monitoring and evaluating the reallocation and shifting of resources".

Further recommendations of the EC Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health (EXPH) include: Promoting R&D on the appropriateness and overprovision of health care, establishing communities of practice to compare practices and to encourage health professionals to take responsibility not just for individual patients, but patient groups. Supporting patient initiatives with unbiased, objective information to enable informed decisions.

All in all, the experts' recommendations give the international debate on value-based health care a new perspective that is tailored to the European social order. The appointment of an LBI-HTA representative to the internationally renowned committee underlines its international reputation in the field of health technology assessments.

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"biospace.com" gefunden am 12.07.2019 11:15 Uhr

# EU Healthcare Systems: A Reallocation of Resources is Urgently Needed

**Turning away from “low-value” (waste, overuse) towards “high-value” health care is critical for the sustainability of solidarity-based healthcare systems. The Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Health Technology Assessment is represented on the European Expert Panel.**

Vienna, 11. July 2019 – On behalf of the European Commission, international health experts are now making a series of recommendations designed to place reallocation in healthcare systems on a real, value-based foundation. With the current pressure to utilize resources more efficiently, they believe that the European solidarity-based healthcare system can only be sustained in this way. The Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Health Technology Assessment (LBI-HTA) from Vienna was represented on the Panel by its director, Priv. Doz. Dr. phil. Claudia Wild.

According to an OECD\* estimate, 10 to 34 percent of healthcare resources are wasted. In view of the increasing scarcity of resources, there is concern that universal health care may be endangered as a result of misused resources. Value-based healthcare is increasingly being discussed as a solution. This “value-based health care” designates a strategy to use healthcare resources where they create the most value. But just how precisely this (added) value is defined remains unclear among experts and in public debates. The European Commission has asked high-profile international health experts to analyse how this value is defined and how the value-based healthcare approach can contribute to a more effective, accessible and sustainable healthcare system. A representative of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Health Technology Assessment (LBI-HTA) in Vienna is participating on the Panel.

## SOLIDARITY AS A FUNDAMENTAL VALUE OF EUROPEAN HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

“In short, we recommend defining value-based healthcare along the guiding principles of solidarity-based healthcare systems in Europe”, says Priv. Dr. Doz. Claudia Wild, Director of the LBI-HTA, and its representative on the Expert Panel. “We thereby propose an alternative to the definitions currently under discussion that relate health outcomes to monetized inputs and to individual patient experiences”. In fact, the Panel experts found these definitions — some of them originating from the US — to be too narrow and to disregard the solidarity aspect of European healthcare. These experts are of the opinion that value-based healthcare should instead rest on four value pillars:

1. Personal value: Appropriate care to achieve patients’ personal goals.
2. Technical value: Achievement of best possible outcomes with available resources.
3. Allocative value: Equitable resource distribution across all patient groups.
4. Societal value: Contribution of healthcare to social participation and connectedness.

## AWARENESS ABOUT THE VALUE OF SOLIDARITY-BASED HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS CREATES SUSTAINABILITY

The financial sustainability of the general healthcare system was also analysed by the experts, who now suggest a long-term strategy of resource reallocation. This is based on the development of a greater awareness of health as an essential investment in the well-being of European society—but also on the establishment of a consistent language when dealing with relevant terms such as “waste”, “in/appropriate care”, “in/equity and equal access” and many more. Dr. Wild states: “We also recommend the training of ‘change agents’, that is, leaders who are to significantly support and shape this process, as well as investments in piloting, monitoring and evaluating the reallocation and shifting of resources”.

Further recommendations of the EC Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health (EXPH) include:

- Promoting R & D on the appropriateness and overprovision of health care.
- Establishing communities of practice to compare practices and to encourage health professionals to take responsibility not just for individual patients, but patient groups.
- Supporting patient initiatives with unbiased, objective information to enable informed decisions.

All in all, the experts' recommendations give the international debate on value-based health care a new perspective that is tailored to the European social order. The appointment of an LBI-HTA representative to the internationally renowned committee underlines its international reputation in the field of health technology assessments.

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Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health (EXPH) 2019: Defining value in "value-based healthcare". Opinion. Available at

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