

Center for Psychosocial Medicine

# Department of General Practice and Primary Care

Director: Prof. Dr. Martin Scherer

## Major research interests in Health Services Research

The Department represents general practice in research, teaching and patient care at the UKE. Research focusses on topics with relevance for general practice, embedded in structures and disciplines of the health care system. Areas of interest are e.g. management of chronic diseases/ multimorbidity, especially at the interface of somatic and mental disorders; investigations of the effectiveness of inter-professional interventions or the effectiveness of interpreting services in medicine. Methodological approaches include quantitative studies such as cross-sectional and longitudinal studies and RCTs. There is also profound expertise in qualitative study methodology. Furthermore the department engages in the development of clinical practice guidelines, the preparation of systematic reviews and the development of quality indicators in order to support high quality and evidence-based health care. Projects in medical education target the further development and evaluation of the curriculum for general practice as well as follow-up of the careers of postgraduates.

## International and national cooperation in Health Services Research

The department is cooperating with a number of institutions from within the Center for Health Care Research and the Center for Psychosocial Medicine. External cooperation partners include the Associations of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians, the Institute for Quality and Economic Efficiency (IQWiG, Cologne) and the aQua Institute for Quality in health care (Göttingen). Research cooperation exist to a number of departments of general practice from German universities (e.g. Göttingen,

Heidelberg or Munich). International research contacts to working groups in the Netherlands, Great Britain and Australia are maintained via the WONCA (World Organization of Family Doctors), GIN (guidelines international network) and the EPCCS (European Primary Care Cardiovascular Society).

## Selected publications in Health Services Research

Muche-Borowski C, Abiry D, Wagner HO, Barzel A, Lühmann D, Egidi G, Kühlein T, Scherer M. Protection against the overuse and underuse of health care - methodological considerations for establishing prioritization criteria and recommendations in general practice. *BMC Health Serv Res.* ;18(1):768.

Eisele M, Adam W, Rakebrandt A, Boczor S, Blozik E, Träder JM, Störk S, Herrmann-Lingen C, Scherer M; RECODE-HF study group . Importance of comorbidities in the treatment of primary care patients with heart failure-Baseline results of the observational RECODE-HF Study. *Fam Pract.* 2018;35(4):481-487.

Mallon T, Ernst A, Brettschneider C, König HH, Luck T, Röhr S, Weyerer S, Werle J, Mösch E, Weeg D, Fuchs A, Pentzek M, Kleinedam L, Hesel K, Riedel-Heller S, Maier W, Wiese B, Scherer M; AgeCoDe & AgeQualiDe study group. Prevalence of pain and its associated factors among the oldest-olds in different care settings - results of the AgeQualiDe study. *BMC Fam Pract.* 2018 ;19(1):85.

Scherer M, Lühmann D, Kazek A, Hansen H, Schäfer I. Patients Attending Emergency Departments. *Dtsch Arztebl Int.* 2017 Sep 29;114(39):645-652.

Muche-Borowski C, Lühmann D, Schäfer I, Mundt R, Wagner HO, Scherer M; Guideline Group of the

German College of General Practice and Family Medicine (DEGAM). Development of a meta-algorithm for guiding primary care encounters for patients with multimorbidity using evidence-based and case-based guideline development methodology. *BMJ Open*. 2017;7(6):e015478.

## Selected research projects in Health Services Research

MULTIqual: Development and Validation of Quality Indicators for Patients with Multimorbidity. (2017-2020), Federal Joint Committee (PI: M. Scherer)

INDIGER: Innovative networks for services and health in regions of tomorrow (2014-2019), Federal Mi-

nistry of Education and Research (PI: M. Scherer)

HOME-CIMT: Home-based constraint-induced movement therapy for patients with upper limb dysfunction after stroke. (2011-2018) Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Co-PIs: M. Scherer, A. Barzel)

BeSSD-GP: Identification of barriers and difficulties involved in the process of diagnosing somatic symptom disorder in primary care. (2015-2018) German Research Foundation (DFG) (Co-PI: M. Scherer)

RECODE-HF: Comorbidities in Patients with Chronic Health Failure (2012-2016), Federal Ministry of Education and Research (PI: M. Scherer)

