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Ministerium für Umwelt,
Gesundheit und
Verbraucherschutz

**Medical Training in the 21st Century and
the Requirements of Society**

CHARME PROJECT CONFERENCE

10.09.2010, Berlin

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Agenda

1. Preliminary Comments
2. Social and political framework conditions
3. Specific features of the German Health System
4. Work as a doctor: profession or vocation?
5. What do patients actually expect from their doctor?
6. What makes for a good program of medical training?

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What you know about Brandenburg?

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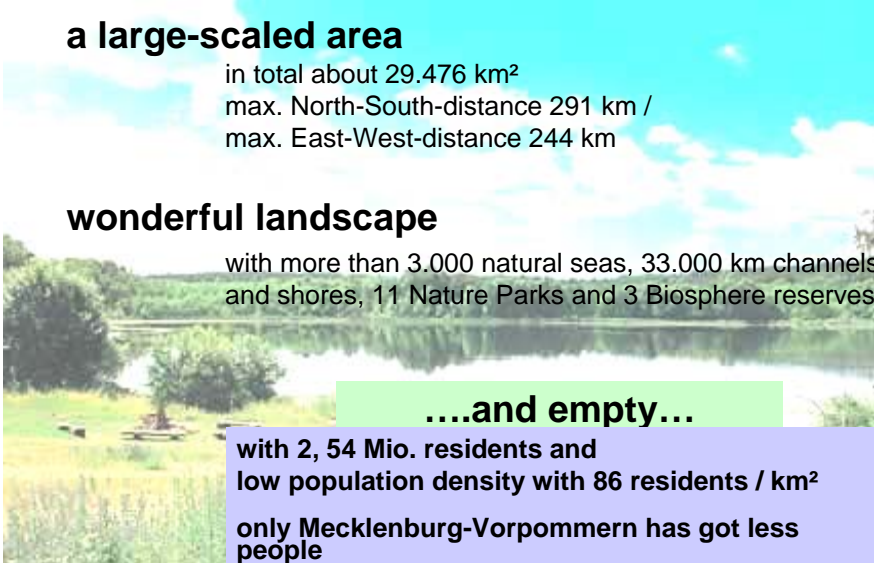
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Brandenburg is...


a large-scaled area
in total about 29.476 km²
max. North-South-distance 291 km /
max. East-West-distance 244 km

wonderful landscape
with more than 3.000 natural seas, 33.000 km channels
and shores, 11 Nature Parks and 3 Biosphere reserves

....and empty...
with 2, 54 Mio. residents and
low population density with 86 residents / km²
only Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has got less
people



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Social and political framework conditions

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**general challenges:
first of all changes to the general social
conditions:**

- Demography and the needs of demographically guided health care policy
- social upheavals
- decreasing of supporting systems and family networks
- changing of career pathing, family and role models
- (legitimate) desire for a work-live-balance

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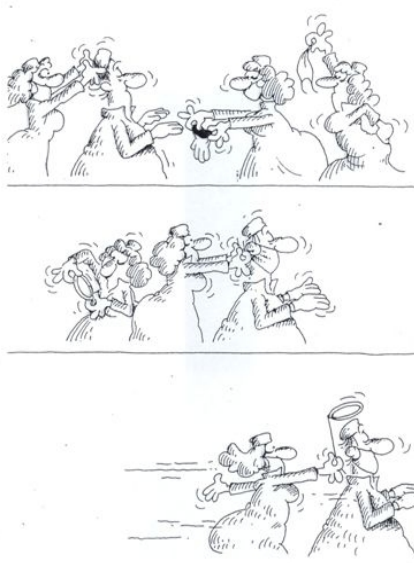
Specific features of the German Health System I

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Germany's Health care system is unique, but... Even so, that a change needs to be made is uncontroversial !

The organisation is inadequate , because it's


- doctor-focussed, expert-driven
- luxury dual structure in the medical field: medical specialists are working in hospitals and out-patient care
- Hierarchical structures, limited carrer opportunities, dissatisfying working conditions



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Specific features of the German Health System II

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We need

- integrating care with cooperation between general practitioners and specialist consultants
- including other health professionals
- flexible and sustainable management and working organisation
- chances to take an active part in decision-making processes

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strategies and solutions for Health Policy


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In Brandenburg Health Goal No. 1 is the guarantee of comprehensive health care close to patients homes. In the light of the large area and the low population density a major challenge – but also a real opportunity for rethinking of:

- which doctors are required in which region
- re-organisation of working distribution and working organisation
- offering out-patient services by hospitals

In future a large number of health professionals will provide delegated medical services without leading to a loss in quality of health care provision.

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Working as a doctor

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Changing paradigm in the past, present and future

profession vs. vocation and the free choice of doctor

free choice of profession vs. employed doctors/ staff

➡ medical service centers in Brandenburg

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patients expectations

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well-known problems:

- lack of time, the high patient throughput rate in medical practices, the focus often on quantity rather than quality, too frequent return visits, poor transfer methods and time, inadequate communication and...

But, do German patients expect too much?

- With 18 visits to the doctor per year, German patients are at the top of the list worldwide.
- Germany has the most expensive health care insurance in Europe, at around 170 billion Euros per year.

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so fare unrealised problems

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Nursing care is being neglected since not enough staff are being employed in hospitals, care assistance services and care homes in order to meet the level of demand in the foreseeable future. There will be a shortfall of tens of thousands of care staff in Berlin and Brandenburg. In addition to this, we'll get problems caused by the employee demographics of the companies.


Brandenburg and Berlin have just recently published a study on this issue.

- Both countries will have to make a great effort in order to attract and retain care workers for patients.
- We need a comprehensive package of measures which improves both working conditions and pay

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expectations of medical training

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- Learning about others – Learning from others – Learning together with others:
Interprofessional learning as a means of enhancing professional competence.
- Medical training should teach young doctors the basic medical techniques of interviewing and examining the patient.
- Every doctor should know the most important diagnoses and differentiate between the symptoms presented by the patient.

 *Only practical training in contact with patients can realistically prepare students for their future profession.*

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future projects

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Good teaching needs professional support.
Institutions in Brandenburg can offer joint seminars
on student training programmes and medical
traineeships in Brandenburg

- Aim is to develop an understanding for medical health care provision over a wide rural area.
- Trainee doctors should sharpen their senses by experiencing “unfiltered” cases.
- Students will gain a wide range of insights into the health care provided by hospitals, practices or health centres.

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Thank you for your attention!

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