

## New structure of health care in rural areas. Potential of different models of organization

### Summary:

#### Context and project goals

Securing health care provision in rural areas is becoming an increasing problem in Germany due to demographic change and urbanization. This is also reflected, for example, in the fact that one of the thematic priorities of the Innovation Fund addresses "health care models in structurally weak or rural areas". Up to now, the development of at least three different organizational models for addressing this challenge has been observed in Germany:

1. Clinic model: Clinics in rural areas take responsibility for both inpatient and outpatient care (examples: Campus concept of the Röhn AG, regional psychiatric budgets in, for example, Schleswig-Holstein and Berlin)
2. KV-Modell: Regional Associations of Social Health Insurance-accredited Physicians undertake measures to ensure outpatient rural care, which are usually grouped around a health center (example: KV Regiomed of KV Brandenburg)
3. Network model: private doctors undertake measures to ensure outpatient care, which focuses on cross-organizational cooperation (examples: MuM - Medizin und Mehr in the region of Bünde, Kirchlengern and Rödinghausen, Medis in southern Brandenburg)

The aim of the project was to better understand these and possible further models of rural provisioning. In addition, previous experiences and their potential and challenges were explored. The investigation was supported by concepts from management, organization and health services research. Specifically, the following questions were addressed, based on an in-depth search and expert interviews:

- Status Quo: Which organizational models of rural health care provision currently exist in Germany? Which properties can be used to classify and distinguish these models?
- Pros and cons: what potentials and challenges are associated with the different models, also in the context of the respective regional context?
- Outlook: What can be said about the future development and dissemination of these models?

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Auschra C, Deisner J, Berghöfer A, Sydow J. Sicherstellung der Gesundheitsversorgung in ländlich geprägten Regionen: Neue Organisationsmodelle und Maßnahmen. Projektbericht in Herausgeberschaft der Stiftung Münch. Berlin 2018. Link zum Volltext: <https://bit.ly/2DSRCx7>

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