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Job satisfaction of general practitioners in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

Submission date
16/12/2025

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
26/01/2026

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
11/02/2026

Condition category
Other

[X] Prospectively registered
[_] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[_] Results
[_] Individual participant data
[X] Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol
Background and study aims
Low job satisfaction as a result of work-related stress is associated with both increased health risks for the doctors concerned and a reduced quality of medical care. In an international study from 2019, Germany ranked last in terms of job satisfaction among general practitioners. In 2019, the German region Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania not only had the third oldest population among all federal states, with an average age of 47.2 years, but it is also the fastest ageing federal state in Germany. The increasing proportion of multimorbid, chronically ill patients poses enormous challenges for the healthcare of the ageing population. These challenges are further exacerbated by the evident shortage of medical professionals. At the same time, digital transformation measures such as the expansion of telematics infrastructure are being driven forward under the pressure of efficiency and cost constraints in healthcare. General practitioners (GPs) are expected to establish new requirements for the documentation and transfer of medical data and must adapt their practice structures accordingly on their own responsibility.
The aim of this study is to determine the current level of job satisfaction among general practitioners in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania and the factors influencing it. The data collected will be compared with that from the 2011 questionnaire survey on job satisfaction among general practitioners in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. The findings will form a data basis for (professional) policy measures aimed at securing and improving the quality of GP care and attracting young people to general practice in the federal state.

Who can participate?
All general practitioners registered and employed in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (Germany) in 2026 will be contacted in writing and asked to participate in an online survey.

What does the study involve?
Participation includes answering an online survey on job satisfaction (88 items) and socio-demographic characteristics (20 items).

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?
Participating GPs help to identify aspects of general practice that are associated with dissatisfaction. The results are intended to help local and national decision-makers optimise

healthcare structures. In this respect, participants have the opportunity to express their wishes and concerns and thus influence future developments. There are no risks associated with participation.

Where is the study run from?
The study is being conducted at the Institute of General Practice at Rostock University Medical Center (Germany)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
March 2026 to May 2026

Who is funding the study?
The study is financed by budgetary funds from the Institute of General Practice at Rostock University Medical Center (Germany)

Who is the main contact?
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Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific, Public, Principal investigator

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Additional identifiers

Study information

Scientific Title
Job satisfaction of general practitioners in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania

Study objectives
We aim to record and analyse the job satisfaction of general practitioners in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Germany, in 2026.

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval(s)
Approved 18/12/2025, Ethica committee at Rostock University Medical Center (Ethikkommission an der Medizinischen Fakultät der Universität Rostock St.-Georg-Str. 108, Rostock, 18055, Germany; +49 (0)381 494 9900; ethik@med.uni-rostock.de), ref: A 2025-0282

Primary study design
Observational

Secondary study design
Cross sectional study

Study type(s)

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Job satisfaction of general practitioners

Interventions
All general practitioners registered and employed in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania in 2026 will be contacted in writing and asked to participate in an online survey. This survey is based on a study conducted in 2011 and has been adapted to the current situation through extensive qualitative studies. The questionnaire is based on 88 items relating to job satisfaction and contains 20 items on the socio-demographic characteristics of the participants.

Intervention Type
Not Specified

Primary outcome(s)
1. overall job satisfaction measured using online survey using 88 items measured on a 5-point Likert scale at February - April 2026

Key secondary outcome(s)

Completion date
31/05/2026

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Registered or employed as a general practitioner in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (Germany)

Healthy volunteers allowed
Yes

Age group
Mixed

Lower age limit
20 Years

Upper age limit
99 Years

Sex
All

Total final enrolment
0

Key exclusion criteria
Not registered or employed as a general practitioner in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (Germany)

Date of first enrolment
04/03/2026

Date of final enrolment
30/04/2026

Locations

Countries of recruitment
Germany

Sponsor information

Organisation
Rostock University Medical Center

Funder(s)

Funder type

Funder Name
Rostock University Medical Center

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not expected to be made available