

Preparation needed - healthcare students abroad

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Most scientific content is the same worldwide, e.g.

Pythagorean theorem, chemical formula of alcohol or Keynes economic theory

But in medicine and health care things are more complicated as causes of disease and treatments vary by country



Example: type 2 diabetes

German students learn: obesity and physical inactivity are the main risk factors for diabetes in the western world.

But in Japan people with diabetes are not overweight and exercise, with a different pathophysiology and treatment.

Source: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(03\)12151-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(03)12151-4)



Example: hypertension

In Germany, hypertension is defined as blood pressure above 140/90 mmHg.

In the USA, hypertension is defined as blood pressure above 130/80 mmHg.



What can/shall we do?

- We need to make sure that students are aware of these differences.
- On a general base an international pan-university lecture series should be created which outlines briefly the different pathophysiologies, treatments, cultures etc. so that students become aware of the differences.
- If you are interested in developing such an approach please contact me k.larisch@eufh-gesundheit.de

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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