



HEALTH LITERACY AS AN AUSTRIAN HEALTH TARGET

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Health Targets for Austria

- » Overall target: improve the health of all people living in Austria, regardless of education level, income, gender, age or situation in life.
- » Increase the number of **Healthy Life Years** by 2 years
- » Targets focus on determinants of health
- » whole government approach all relevant political and societal areas actively involved:

federal and provincial authorities, social security funds, social partners, health care professionals, health experts, health and welfare institutions, patient representatives, representatives of children, young people and senior citizens, Austrian member of the European Poverty Network





Health Targets for Austria - the process

Important steps:

- » national health conference
- » invitation to contribute views online:
 - » Health for all in Austria: what do we need to get there?
 - » In your opinion, what is the most important health goal?
 - -> 4.300 answers
- » plenary of 35





Health Targets for Austria

1. To provide health-promoting living and working conditions for all population groups through cooperation of all societal and political areas



2. To promote fair and equal opportunities in health, irrespective of gender, socio-economic group, ethnic origin and age



3. To enhance health literacy in the population



4. To secure sustainable natural resources such as air, water and soil and healthy environments for future generations



5. To strengthen **social cohesion** as a health enhancer





Health Targets for Austria

6. To ensure conditions under which children and young people can grow up as healthy as possible



7. To provide access to a healthy diet with food of good quality for all



8. To promote healthy, safe exercise and activity in everyday life through appropriate environments



9. To promote psychosocial health in all population groups



10. To secure sustainable and efficient health care services of high quality for all



Source: www.gesundheitsziele-oesterreich.at



Gesundheit Österreich

Target 3: To enhance health literacy in the population

"Health literacy is a central pillar for the promotion of health and equity among the population. It helps people make appropriate decisions for themselves in everyday life that promote their health.

This requires enhancing personal competencies and accountability in all population groups, and particularly in disadvantaged groups, facilitating access to objective, easily-comprehensible information of assured quality and increasing awareness of health promotion issues.

Patients and users of the health care system should play an important role as stakeholders, which also enhances patients' self-efficacy. It should be easy for people to find their way through the health care, educational and welfare systems and to play an active role as committed partners in the system."

Source: www.gesundheitsziele-oesterreich.at





Target "to enhance health literacy" – next steps

- » Finding indicators to the targets
- » Defining more specific targets
- » Create a monitoring and evaluation system
- » Defining an implementation plan

Status quo: constitution of a working group for the target "health literacy"





Thank you for your attention!