

Rural Pact Conference

15-16 June 2022



Healthacross initiative

Making cross-border healthcare happen.

Insights from Lower Austria

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Lower Austria

Where are we?



Health Agency of Lower Austria

Cross-border healthcare - why do we care?

- Umbrella organization for all 27 hospitals and 50 nursing/disabled care centers
- Institution under public law with legal personality
- Hospitals and care centers are 100 per cent owned by Lower Austria
- roughly 27.000 employees (biggest employer in the region)
- ☐ 414 km internal border to Czechia, Slovakia and in close proximity Hungary

“equal access to quality healthcare services close to home”





Healthacross for Future

Lower Austria / South Bohemia

‘Devided city’ of Gmünd/České Velenice



2 Pillars

- Cross-border healthcare in the hospital of Gmünd ☐ in- & outpatient treatment
- Cross-border primary healthcare centre ☐ analysis, planning & approval



Primary Healthcare Centre Gmünd

Financed via Austrian Rural Development Programme 2014 to 2020



„Healthacross Med Gmünd“



Healthacross initiative

Objectives

- ✓ Improve the quality of life for citizens living in border regions
- ✓ Equal access to healthcare services close to home
- ✓ Positive regional economic effects

How?

- Implementing innovative projects
- Active member of European / International Health Networks





Cross-border healthcare

Food for thought

Border areas are home of 30% of the European population - 150 million citizens respectively.

The EU with its immediate neighbours from the EFTA Association counts 40 internal land borders.

Differences in legislation: In federal EU MS regions are responsible for managing and organizing healthcare systems.

«Wish it, dream it, do it!»

Thank you

