Too Soon Old, Too Late Smart

Bavarian Telemedicine Day Panel

Demographic Changes in Medicine --- Telemedicine Practitioners Needed

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Demographic Change
The German population is one of the “oldest” worldwide, stimulating the demand for healthcare products and services.

Share of the generation 65+

North America: 15%
Latin America & Caribbean: 8%
Europe: 21%
Asia: 8%
Africa: 3%
Japan: 1.2%
Oceania: 28%

Worldwide: 9%

Source: German Foundation for World Population (DSW) 2018, Population Reference Bureau 2018
Demographic Challenges
Growing demand for healthcare services drives the development of digital healthcare solutions in Germany

Aging Society
- 2035: 24 million people aged 65 years or older
  (31 percent of the population)

Care Dependency
- 2020: 2.5 to 3 million
- 2050: 3.25 to 4 million

Chronic Diseases
- Chronic and long-term diseases account for about 80 percent of German healthcare spending (EUR 200 billion)
- Within 14 years the number of people with diabetes mellitus has risen from 5.8 to 7.2 million people
German physicians by Age Cohort

- under 34 years
- 35-39 years
- 40-49 years
- 50-59 years
- 60-64 years
- over 65 years
Definitions

- **Telemedicine**: The use of telecommunication technologies to evaluate, diagnose, and treat (including prescriptions) patients at a site physically removed from the location of the physician.
  
  Physician to physician consultation, Physician to patient, Patient to physician

- **Telehealth**: The use of telecommunications technologies to provide healthcare services to patients at a site other than the location of the clinician.
  
  Behavioral health, RHM/ Nursing care, Nutrition counseling, Medication management
Barriers to Physician Telemedicine Adoption

Education

- Mid to late career physicians
- Physicians in training
- Physician regulators and policy makers

Reimbursement
Telemedicine Policy Recommendations

**Standardize** nationwide technology agnostic definitions and rules

**Incorporate** telemedicine education into all healthcare curricula

**Incorporate** telemedicine best practices into the medical standard of care

**Integrate** all telemedicine visit records into the EHR and the e-Health card
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