

## **GH:ADT Project: developing a framework of Global Health concepts and a learning objectives catalogue**

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### **Background:**

Global Health (GH) is receiving increasing attention, in Germany, Europe and internationally. Despite an increased demand, teaching on GH remains fragmented and heterogeneous in the university landscape in German-speaking countries. Moreover, there is a lack of common understanding of GH and interpretations range from GH as tropical medicine to GH as everything related to health. This project aims to develop (A) a framework of different GH concepts, as a basis for (B) a set of GH learning objectives for German-speaking countries.

### **Methods:**

A review of publications providing GH definitions was carried out. Following a concept analysis approach, we developed a general framework of different and partially overlapping GH understandings. Building on these results we conducted an overview of reviews on learning objectives and curricula for GH to develop a set of learning objectives.

### **Results:**

The general framework distinguishes between GH concepts describing GH as (1) a set of global health issues (e.g. COVID-19), (2) a global ideal to strive for, (3 + 4) any activities relating to said global health issues or ideals (e.g. all activities contributing to health equity), and (5) sets of activities meeting various characteristics (e.g. being transdisciplinary and transnational). Within each concept, multiple sets of axes allow a more granular distinction of the concepts (e.g. regarding the relation to public health and tropical medicine). The list of key learning objectives shows considerable overlap with widely accepted public health core competencies. Differences include e.g. a (stronger) emphasis on intercultural and interdisciplinary collaboration, globalisation and transnational determinants of health.

### **Conclusions:**

A systematic reflection on commonalities and differences in the understanding of GH is important for a shared understanding. Based on the GH learning objectives we will develop core competencies for GH, including through an online survey of GH experts.

### **Key messages:**

- The GH:ADT framework of global health concepts supports a systematic reflection on and recognition of the multi-dimensional nature of Global Health.

- The learning objectives identified in the GH:ADT project can be a valuable tool for curriculum development.