Piloting Community Nursing in Austria

Alice Edtmayer

September 9th, 2022

6th International Conference on Evidence-based Policy in Long-term Care, London

Gesundheit Österreich GmbH

Background

Demographic Challenges

- Population ages
- Ratio young:old shifts
- 2022: 19,6% 65+ y/o vs. 2050: 27,7% 65+ y/o (Statistik Austria 2022)

Staff shortages

- Forecast 2030: 76.000 professional care staff lacking (Rappold et al. 2019)

Informal Carers

- ~950.000 informal carers (Nagl-Cupal et al. 2018)
- In need of low-threshold support

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

Approach to a solution

Vision

- Supporting family caregivers
- Enabling healthy aging
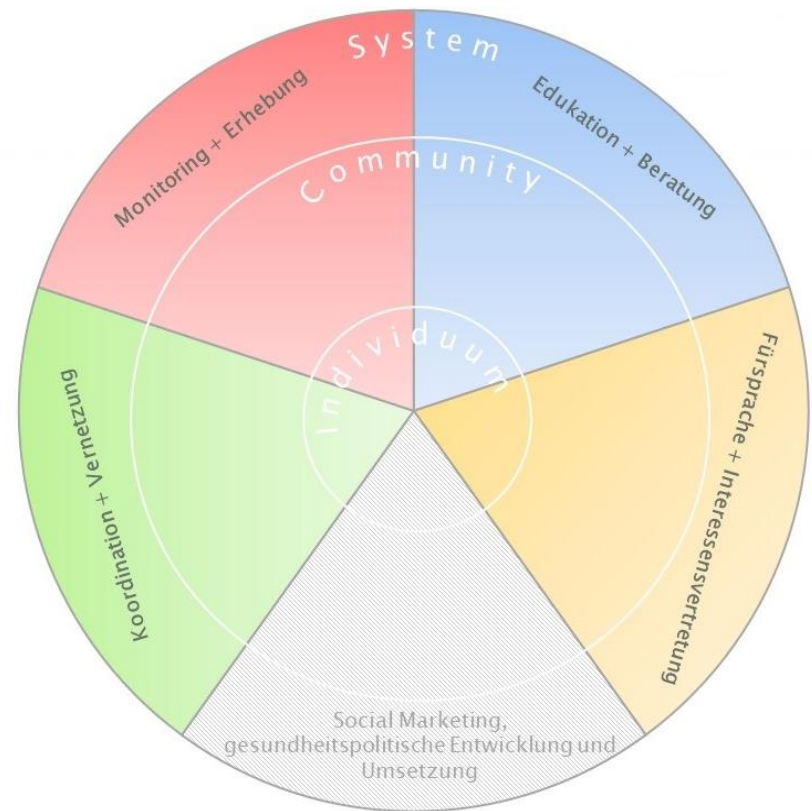- Preventing/delaying the need for care

Measure

- Implementing Community (Health) Nursing
- Duration: 3 years with the intention of being transferred to regular financing
- Costs: 54.2m € funded by the EU Resillience and Recovery Facility (RRF)

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

Role profile of the Community Nurses

- **The Public Health Intervention Wheel as a theoretical basis**
  - Adapted by GÖG and reviewed by experts from theory and practice
  - 5 Wedges
    - Assessment and Monitoring
    - Education and Counselling
    - Advocacy and Lobbying
    - Nursing Intervention, Coordination and Networking
    - (Social Marketing)

→ Linchpin in the healthcare system – counselling and referring, training on site, workshops, preventive home visits, advise local politics etc.

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

Implementation of Community Nursing-Role of GÖG

- Developing the role profile of the CN

- Handling of the funding call → 145 applications - 123 met criteria – 110 started

- Technical and content-related support of the nurses

  - Virtual meeting every 2 weeks with emphasis on different topics (1 hour)

  - Virtual webinar every months with emphasis on Community Nursing (3 hours)

  - Conference every year with emphasis on several topics (2 days)

  - Tour through federal states every year with emphasis on networking (1 day each)

  - Starting 2023: Lecture series in cooperation with educational institutions

  - Throughout the project: providing the CN with literature recommendations and quickstarter videos, forward relevant events, being available for questions

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

Challenges I

Organisational

- Unexpected scaling up of the project (due to funding of RRF)

- Different kick-off times of the ~120 projects

Personal

- Diversity in the nurses' backgrounds (education, experience, professional understanding etc.)

- Unfamiliar working condition (less routines, more autonomy etc.)

- New contents – from disease treatment to health promotion

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

Challenges II

Population

- Terminology: "Community Nurse"

- Lack of awareness for health promotion

Political and legal issues

- Change of responsible persons

- GDPR

- …

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

References

Minnesota Department of Health 2019; Minnesota Department of Health 2019. Public Health interventions: application for public health nursing practice (2nd ed.)

Nagl-Cupal, M., Kolland, F., Zartler, U., Mayer, H., Bittner, M., Koller, M., Parisot, V., Stöhr, D., Bundesministerium für Arbeit, Soziales, Gesundheit und Konsumentenschutz (Hg.) (2018): Angehörigenpflege in Österreich. Einsicht in die Situation pflegender Angehöriger und in die Entwicklung informeller Pflegenetzwerke. Universität Wien.

Rappold, Elisabeth; Juraszovich, Brigitte (2019): Pflegepersonal-Bedarfsprognose für Österreich. Wien: Bundesministerium für Arbeit, Soziales, Gesundheit und Konsumentenschutz, Wien.

Statistik Austria (2022): Bevölkerungsprognosen für Österreich und die Bundesländer. https://www.statistik.at/statistiken/bevoelkerung-und-soziales/bevoelkerung/demographische-prognosen/bevoelkerungsprognosen-fuer-oesterreich-und-die-bundeslaender).

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH

Thank you for your attention!

Feel free to ask questions or share your experiences!

Contact:

alice.edtmayer@goeg.at

Gesundheit Österreich
GmbH