

# Testing a Community Health Assessment in Germany with the Focus on Planetary Health and Older Adults in an urban Area

8-9 May 2025

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## Background

Older adults are particularly vulnerable in the context of planetary health and require tailored prevention strategies.<sup>1</sup> **Community Health Nurses (CHNs)** use **Community Health Assessments (CHAs)** to understand local needs and resources and to formulate a community diagnosis. The CHN working group of the DBfK **tested** in a workshop a CHA by using the **Community Assessment Wheel**<sup>2</sup> in Dresden (Germany), **focusing on planetary health and older adults**.

## Objective

- Testing a CHA in Dresden using the **Community Assessment Wheel** according to **Anderson & McFarlane 2015**<sup>2</sup>
- Participants: CHNs, CHN-Students, Public Health Nurses, Advanced Practice Nurses
- Date: 17.11.2024, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

## Methods

Data from the workshop participants were collected through written responses and entered into **MAXQDA** for **qualitative content analysis**<sup>3</sup> by the authors. **Barriers** and **facilitators** served as predefined deductive categories; all other categories were developed inductively. Coding was performed by four individuals (MH, NK, MJ, MCP) who had also participated in the workshop. Coding consistency was ensured through team discussions among the four coders.

1. What was good? What was easy?
2. What have I learnt? What do I want to keep?

5. In my view, what has been neglected?



4. How did I feel about the cooperation and exchange in the working groups?

3. What didn't go well? What did I find difficult?

## Results

### Facilitators

- Collaborative team approach („Group collaboration“)
- On-site interaction („get into dialogue with people“)
- Taking time („Take your time at selected locations & observe“)
- Structured assessment („Easy to assign observation criteria“)

### Barriers

- Team issues („Survey in the group was conspicuous“)
- Hesitation to engage in on-site interactions („Addressing people“)
- Scope too broad („There was not enough time“)
- Lack of specificity („Focus on (...) the research question; I tended to want to perceive and document everything.“)
- Documentation-related challenges („Data management is challenging“)

## Conclusion

- The CHA provides a valuable **global overview of local health needs**; however, approaching a **specific topic in depth remains challenging** in our Workshop.
- A **standardised tool** for consistent **documentation is needed**.
- Based on the workshop experience, **small groups of 2-3 people** seem to be **suitable** for conducting the assessment.

### Reference list

- 1 Bauer, Jürgen M und Becker, Clemens (2023): Geriatrie - Neue Herausforderungen für die medizinische Versorgung von älteren In: Planetary Health. (2023), Medizinisch Wissenschaftliche Verlagsgesellschaft, Seite 122-130
- 2 Anderson, Elizabeth T.; McFarlane, Judith M. (Hg.) (2019): Community as partner. Theory and practice in nursing. 8th edition. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer.
- 3 Kuckartz, Udo (2018): Qualitative Inhaltsanalyse. Methoden, Praxis, Computerunterstützung. 4., überarbeitete Aufl. Weinheim: Beltz

### Funding

The CHA was conducted during a workshop held as part of the project "Community Health Nursing – Phase III", funded by Bosch Health Campus GmbH. The funder had no role in the design or content of the study.