

Attachment 1: Questionnaire

Attachment 1 to Fink M, Lotter I, Sennekamp M. *Factors influencing the length of postgraduate training and motives for choosing general practice as a specialty. Results of a cross-sectional study of general practitioners after completion of the specialist examination.* GMS J Med Educ. 2024;41(5):Doc67. DOI: 10.3205/zma001722

The English version is a translation for informational purposes only of the original German-language instrument.

Please create your personal code below.

- A) **first** letter of your mother's first name (e.g. Beate → B)
B) **first** letter of the first place you studied medicine (e.g. Leipzig → L)
C) & D) mother's date of birth (**DD** MM YYYY) (e.g. **03**.05.1960 → 0 3)
E) **first** letter of your place of birth (e.g. Bad Hersfeld → B)

5-digit code (please fill in)

A	B	C	D	E

If you cannot answer one or more of these questions, please put an "X" in the corresponding place.

I. General information

1. Your year of birth:

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2. Your gender: female male other

3. Your nationality: _____

4. What is the population of the main place in which you grew up?

- less than 5,000 between 5,001 and 20,000 between 20,001 and 50,000
 between 50,001 and 100,000 over 100,000 I don't know/no answer

5. Your marital status:

- married/registered civil partnership in partnership divorced single widowed

→ If you have a partner, in what year were they born?

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6. What is the population of the main place in which your partner grew up?

- I do not have a partner
 less than 5,000 between 5,001 and 20,000 between 20,001 and 50,000
 between 50,001 and 100,000 over 100,000 I don't know/no answer

7. Do you live with your partner in the same household?

- I do not have a partner no yes

8. What is your partner's profession? Please describe the occupation as precisely as possible:

9. Based on your personal life planning, who in your partnership do you expect to be the main earner in the long term?

- I do not have a partner
 me I am likely to be each likely to contribute equally my partner is likely to be my partner

10. Do you have children? no yes If yes: a. How many children do you have?

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 b. year of birth of your youngest child:

 c. year of birth of your oldest child:

11. Had you already taken up vocational training/another course of study prior to studying medicine?

- yes, completed it, namely: _____
 yes, but did **not** complete it, namely: _____
 no

12. Quarter and year you were awarded license to practice medicine (*Approbation*):

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13. Place of your license to practice medicine Germany outside Germany, in: _____

14. Quarter and year you started practicing medicine after obtaining your license:

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15. Quarter and year you took the specialist examination in general practice:

a. If you had already completed specialist training before, in what specialty?

b. If applicable, the quarter and year of any previous specialist examination:

16. How well do the following statements describe your personality?

I see myself as someone who...

	(1) Disagree strongly	(2) Disagree a little	(3) Neither agree nor disagree	(4) Agree a little	(5) Agree strongly
(1) ... is reserved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) ... is generally trusting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3) ... tends to be lazy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4) ... is relaxed, handles stress well	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(5) ... has few artistic interests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(6) ... is outgoing, sociable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(7) ... tends to find fault with others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(8) ... does a thorough job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(9) ... gets nervous easily	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(10) ... has an active imagination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

II. Information on individual postgraduate training

17. Are you familiar with the services of Hesse's Competency Center for Postgraduate Medical Training (*Kompetenzzentrum Weiterbildung Hessen - KW Hessen*) for physicians in postgraduate general practice training?

no yes → If yes: a. Have you participated in the KW Hessen seminar program?
 no yes, namely _____ years, most recently: _____

b. Have you participated in the KW Hessen mentoring program?
 no yes, namely _____ years, most recently: _____

c. How did you hear about the KW Hessen? _____

d. What (other) support services would you like to have been offered by KW Hessen?

18. Have you taken advantage of services by the Hesse Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians (*Kassenärztliche Vereinigung Hessen - KVH*) for physicians in postgraduate general practice training?

no yes → If yes, which of these services?
 financial assistance for the clinical rotations summer and winter school
 financial assistance for postgraduate training 'Doc's Camp'
 financial assistance for the final year



19. What made you decide to pursue postgraduate training in general practice? (multiple answers possible)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> clinical rotations | <input type="checkbox"/> 'Doc's Camp' | <input type="checkbox"/> curriculum focus on general practice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> block sub internship | <input type="checkbox"/> 'Landpartie' edu. program | <input type="checkbox"/> financial assistance from the KVH |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Final year | <input type="checkbox"/> 'Praxistrack' | <input type="checkbox"/> KW Hessen's introductory weekend |
| <input type="checkbox"/> summer and winter school | <input type="checkbox"/> personal role models | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |

20. I received financial assistance from the KVH for the following program: (multiple answers possible)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> clinical rotations | <input type="checkbox"/> final year | <input type="checkbox"/> outpatient part of postgraduate training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> none | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know/no answer | |

21. How important was the KVH financial assistance for you? very important absolutely not important

22. Did you complete your entire postgraduate training in Hesse? yes no

→ If no: In what other federal German state/other country did you complete parts of your postgraduate training?

23. How did you find your jobs? (multiple answers possible)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> job exchange of the Coordination Office for Postgraduate Education in General Practice Hesse (<i>Koordinierungsstelle Weiterbildung Allgemeinmedizin Hessen</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hessenkarte (postgraduate training networks) of the Coordination Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> unsolicited application | <input type="checkbox"/> Hesse's Competency Center for Postgraduate Medical Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> personal contacts | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> by other means: _____ | |

24. How often did you apply for a job during your postgraduate training in general practice? - times

25. Did you openly communicate the aim of your postgraduate training (to become a GP), particularly in the clinical part of your postgraduate training?

yes no → If no: Why not? _____

26. Did you have one or more undesired interruptions of at least one month in your postgraduate training?

yes, a total of _____ months. The reasons for this were _____
 no

27. Did you have one or more desired interruptions of at least one month in your postgraduate training?

yes, a total of _____ months. The reasons for this were _____
 no

28. Did you complete parts of your postgraduate training on a part-time-basis?

no

yes → If yes: What part(s)?

→ Please state the reasons for this: _____

→ Under what conditions would a full-time job have been an option for you? _____

29.1 How long did you work in inpatient care during your postgraduate training in general practice? (estimate if necessary)

_____ years

29.2 How long did you work in outpatient care during your postgraduate training in general practice? (estimate if necessary)

_____ years

30. When did you decide to complete postgraduate training in general practice?

before the course of studying during the course of study between the end of the course of study and the start of the postgraduate training

during the postgraduate training after completing other postgraduate training

→ If “during the postgraduate training” or “after completing other postgraduate training”:

a. Please explain:

b. Please state your original postgraduate training objective:

31. Please state for us the quarter and year in which you **decided** to complete your postgraduate training in general practice.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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32. Please state for us the quarter and year in which you actually **started** to complete your postgraduate training in general practice.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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33. What were the main reasons to become a general practitioner?

34. What do you consider obstacles to choosing general practice?

35. Did a break in pursuing your career (e.g. parental leave) play a role in your decision to specialize in general practice?

yes

no



(8) I consider regular feedback from the trainer to be important.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(9) I had the opportunity to give feedback to my employer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(10) I consider the opportunity to give feedback to my employer to be important.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(11) Overall, I was very satisfied with my postgraduate training.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

41. How often did feedback conversations with the trainer take place during your postgraduate training?

clinic: ____ time(s) per year other: _____
 practice: ____ time(s) per year other: _____

42. I was able to make good use of the feedback I received from my trainer for my postgraduate medical training.

yes no partially → If "partially", please explain: _____

43. Did you take part in an organized mentoring program outside the KW Hessen, in which, for example, an experienced specialist mentored one or more physicians in postgraduate training?

→ If yes, the name of the program:
 no yes _____

→ If yes, was the program helpful? not helpful very helpful

44. Did you complete your postgraduate training in a postgraduate training association (*Weiterbundesverband*), in which practices and clinics jointly coordinated your postgraduate training?

no yes partially

→ If "yes" or "partially": How did you find out about the postgraduate training association?

advice from the Coordination Office Hessenkarte of the Coordination Office
 job exchange of the Coordination Office advice from KW Hessen
 personal contacts other _____

→ If "yes" or "partially": Would you recommend postgraduate training in a postgraduate training association?

yes no I don't know

45. How would you rate the ratio of workload to remuneration during your postgraduate training?

clinic: very good very poor

practice: very good very poor

	very important	important	not so important	unimportant
46. How important was the following to you when choosing general practice as a specialty?				
(1) to have regular working hours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) to be able to organize your working hours flexibly (for example, to work part-time)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



	very important	important	not so important	unimportant
(3) to have good earnings potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4) to have good career opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(5) to have a good work-family life balance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(6) to be very familiar with patients' living conditions besides just knowing their medical history	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(7) to be able to treat as broad a range of illnesses as possible in this profession	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(8) to work in a team with different types of specialists in this profession	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(9) to work in a team with colleagues from various other healthcare professions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(10) to work in your own practice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(11) to be involved with research topics and studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(12) the compatibility of your workplace with your partner's working conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(13) to work in a team with other practitioners of the same specialty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(14) to have the workplace close to home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(15) to be able to work autonomously	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(16) a good range of further and postgraduate training courses on offer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(17) company childcare	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

47. Where do you see yourself working in **2 years'** time?

- own practice emp. in a practice/outpatient HC center clinic
 research employment in the private sector
 other _____

48. How many hours per week would you like to be working in **2 years'** time? hours

49. Where do you see yourself working in **10 years'** time?

- own practice emp. in a practice/outpatient HC center clinic
 research activity employment in the private sector
 other _____

50. How many hours per week would you like to be working in **10 years'** time? hours

51. With a view to a possible future practice of your own: Which would be your preferred path?

- setting up a new practice taking over an existing practice or part of a practice
 other: _____

52. If you could imagine settling down in a practice of your own: Which form of practice would you prefer?

single practice joint practice group practice by partnership agreement (*Berufsausübungsgemeinschaft* - BAG, formerly *Gemeinschaftspraxis*)

outpatient healthcare center (MVZ) other:

53. If you cannot imagine settling down to practice: What are your reasons for not wishing to do so?

54. Do you feel well prepared to set up your own practice?

yes no → If no, please explain: _____

55. Would you be in favor of the KW Hessen offering interested physicians the opportunity to participate in coaching to accompany handover and takeover of a practice?

yes no

56. Would you yourself take advantage of such a coaching offer by KW Hessen to accompany takeover of a practice?

definitely: yes definitely: no

57. What would be the ideal population of your future place of work (workplace does not have to be the place of residence)?

less than 5,000 between 5,001 and 20,000 between 20,001 and 50,000
 between 50,001 and 100,000 over 100,000 I don't know/no answer

58. Where do you want to work in the future?

in Hesse in another German state → If yes, in: _____
 abroad → If yes, in: _____

I found this to be particularly good in the postgraduate training:

In postgraduate training in general practice, this still need improvement:

Thank you very much for participating!