



First representative survey on children's health literacy in Germany

Today, there is barely any representative data on children's health literacy. Thus, it is not possible to estimate to what extent children face difficulty accessing, understanding, appraising, and applying health information. However, it becomes increasingly more important, also for children, to be able to use health information effectively, which is why an overview of the state of children's health literacy is urgently needed. To meet this demand, a representative survey on children's health literacy is conducted in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany's most populous federal state. The research is conducted within the frame of the research project HL-Kids-NRW (2018-



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2021), which is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). To measure health literacy, a questionnaire will be used that has been developed in the previous research project [MoMChild](#). This questionnaire is an age-adapted and modified version of the European Health Literacy Survey Questionnaires (HLS-EU-Q), which is becoming one of the most frequently used assessment tools of adult health literacy across Europe and Asia. The measurement of children's health literacy with an adapted version of the HLS-EU-Q is an innovation, not only in Germany, but worldwide.

Within the project runtime, the first representative data on the state of health literacy of fourth grade students in Germany will be gathered, providing the basis for sustainable and evidence-based interventions aiming to promote children's health literacy.

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