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# Social diversity and access to healthcare

VERLAG KARL ALBER



Mojca Ramšak, Paweł Łuków, Amir Muzur and  
Florian Steger (Eds.)

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ANGEWANDTE ETHIK



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## Social diversity and access to healthcare

Social diversity may affect health outcomes in situations when access to healthcare is limited for certain social groups. Although non-discriminatory access to healthcare services is one of the basic principles of medical ethics and health law, there are still debates regarding the implementation of this concept in practice. Barriers such as inadequate legal entitlements, language, different concepts of health and disease, socio-economic factors or attitudes of healthcare professionals can hinder equity in access to healthcare. The authors of contributions gathered in this volume analyze challenges in access to healthcare for various minority groups and propose possible solutions.

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# Content

Preface . . . . .	11
<i>Mojca Ramšak, Paweł Łuków, Amir Muzur and Florian Steger</i>	
Introduction . . . . .	13
<b>I. Minorities</b>	
<i>Alenka Janko Spreizer</i>	
Social exclusion of Roma from healthcare as a public space: another dimension of antigypsyism? . . . . .	27
<i>Erika Zelko, Zala Peterka, Danica Rotar Pavlič</i>	
How challenging is the Slovenian healthcare system for the Roma population? . . . . .	47
<i>Blaž Kovač</i>	
Roma in Slovenia – a story of disaster . . . . .	59
<i>Mateja Lopuh</i>	
Social diversity and access to palliative care for minority groups . . . . .	70
<i>Ana Poščić, Adrijana Martinović</i>	
Gender identity and access to healthcare in Croatia – legal framework . . . . .	82

## II. Migration

*Mirko Prosen, Sabina Ličen, Igor Karnjuš*

Improving the quality of care for a culturally diverse population:  
Understanding immigrant women's hospital experiences . . . . . 107

*Alenka Kraigher, Nuška Čakš Jager*

Occupational risks and protection from infectious diseases in  
contact with migrants and refugees . . . . . 121

*Nina Fritz*

Healthcare of migrants at the reception centre Brežice . . . . . 134

*Robert Bitterlich, Heike Vogelbusch, Stephanie Schierack,  
Jana Luntz*

The refugee guide as an innovative project:  
Development, implementation and use at the University Hospital  
Carl Gustav Carus Dresden . . . . . 150

## III. Poverty and vulnerable groups

*Ines Gumilar, Erika Zelko*

Socio-economic structure of patients and their reasons for  
visiting pro bono clinics in Slovenia . . . . . 159

*Vida Drame Orožim*

An outpatient clinic and counseling assistance for people without  
health insurance, Ljubljana, Slovenia . . . . . 171

*Nada Gosić, Tajana Tomak*

The impact of poverty on the position of vulnerable groups in  
health care – a retrospective study of cases of pregnant women  
and newborns . . . . . 186

*Maja Ebert Moltara, Lučka Boltežar, Maja Ivanetič Pantar,  
Marjana Bernot*

**Palliative care – the needs of patients with incurable illnesses and  
their relatives . . . . . 196**

**Addresses for correspondence . . . . . 211**



# Preface

This volume is the result of the European Union project »Healthcare as a Public Space: Social Integration and Social Diversity in the Context of Access to Healthcare in Europe«, which is being conducted within the framework of the Joint Research Programme »Public Spaces: Culture and Integration in Europe« funded by the Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA) network and the European Commission.

This project focuses on the concept of diversity that includes aspects of ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexual orientation in the social context of healthcare viewed as a public space. The aim of this project is to generate systematic knowledge about how and to what degree the European norms and guidelines concerning diversity are implemented in national legal regulations in Germany, Slovenia, Croatia, and Poland and how they are realized in clinical practice in these countries. The project concentrates on the ethical, cultural, and normative aspects of integration and exclusion within the healthcare sector.

The project is being realized in cooperation of research institutions at four European universities: the Institute of the History, Philosophy and Ethics of Medicine at Ulm University (Germany), the Institute of History of Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), the Department of Social Sciences and Medical Humanities at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Rijeka (Croatia), and the Center for Bioethics and Biolaw at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Warsaw (Poland).

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