

## Overview CHARE GD-II sub projects.

**Title:** Establishing a health and contextual data inventory to facilitate interdisciplinary cross-border research.

### Scientific project leaders:

German side	Dutch side
Sebastian Schnettler	Tobias Vogt Viola Angelini

**Student / researcher conducting the project:** Sophie Stroisch

**Starting date of the project:** 1.3.2022

### Project description:

Cross-border health research relies heavily on comparable data sources to analyse differences and commonalities between both sides of the border. The Ems-Dollart region provides a particularly interesting setting for analysing individual and contextual determinants of life course health, including both physical and mental health outcomes, but also wider measures such as quality of life or general wellbeing. In addition, the region offers the possibility to directly compare structures, processes and outcomes of patients cared for in the German and Dutch healthcare system from a local and individual perspective. The Ems-Dollart region shares a similar cultural and historical (and potentially genetic) background, but is exposed to very different social and institutional environments on both sides of the border. To gain deeper insights and to fully exploit this setting, it is essential to systematically review and provide access to existing German and Dutch data sources about the Ems-Dollart region. A comprehensive inventory of existing data sources will be an important step to facilitate cooperation between different researchers within and across both sides of the border. This subproject will complement the Cross-border Health Data Compass outlined in CHARE-GD I by providing researchers with a systematic and digital inventory of quality-appraised data sources suitable for cross-border comparisons.

The major objective of the project is to develop a digital 'Cross-border Health Data Inventory' (CHDI) with detailed information about data sources which can be used by researchers to compare health and healthcare in the Ems-Dollart region, including a quality appraisal. A second objective is to select and combine available secondary data sources identified by the CHDI for scientific cross-border comparisons. The comparison will focus on socioeconomic determinants of life-course health of the population living in this cross-border region in order to identify regional needs for prevention and health promotion.

One PhD student will work together with the PIs in gathering the available information and evaluate the quality of the data. The PhD will further conduct independent research in the EU cross border context with a particular focus on the Ems- Dollart region.