

LMU General Practice & Family Medicine

Newsletter March 2026



Dear colleagues,
dear friends of the Institute,

Lifelong learning is both a defining feature and a necessity in medicine. The half-life of medical knowledge – the period after which 50% of professional knowledge is considered outdated – is estimated to be no more than five years.

For this reason, we develop and update our teaching and professional education programs in General Practice each semester and each year.

We are particularly pleased that approximately 250 students once again awarded top ratings this semester to our teaching practices for both the General Practice seminar and block placement. These evaluations reflect excellent conditions for learning and applying General Practice knowledge.

Further opportunities for academic and professional development are offered within our leadership program Hausarzt 360°, where five to ten early-career physicians are closely integrated into research and teaching alongside a multi-year clinical rotation curriculum.

Within a current teaching project, we are examining how AI-generated feedback can enhance our General Practice lecture series. We are eager to learn – together with our lecturers – how AI may contribute to educational development.

A special highlight in continuing education this year is the LMU Insights General Practice event focusing on vaccination – a field characterized by a particularly short knowledge half-life. PD Dr. Camilla Rothe will present key updates on 08 July in the Gärtnersaal at LMU Klinikum Innenstadt.

We look forward to engaging in shared (lifelong) learning with you.

Yours sincerely,
Anja Sommer
and the LMU General Practice Team

Teaching & Professional Education

Pilot Study on AI in Teaching Launched

"I was surprised by how readily I could accept the AI's feedback." This was how one lecturer described their personalized, AI-generated feedback on a lecture. The response highlights the potential of our teaching project aimed at optimizing the General Practice lecture series using AI support. All 24 lectures were recorded and transcribed last semester and are currently undergoing structured analysis using a specially developed AI tool. Lecturers thus receive constructive and "objective" feedback intended to inform and refine lectures in the coming semester. We look forward with great interest to the capabilities of the AI, as well as to the reflections and implementations emerging from our teaching staff.

patricia.landmesser@med.uni-muenchen.de

Top Ratings for Block Placement and General Practice Seminar

The student evaluations for the Winter Semester 2025/26 are now available. Seminars led by General Practitioners achieved an overall rating of 1.4 (German grading scale). In the block placement, 95% of students reported such high satisfaction with their practice that they would recommend it without reservation. Our sincere thanks to all teaching practices for this outstanding achievement.

On a related note, due to the retirement of several teaching physicians, we are currently seeking two General Practitioners in Munich with a strong interest in teaching. If you are interested, we would be pleased to hear from you.

anja.sommer@med.uni-muenchen.de

Strengthening Rural Block Placement Practices

Beginning April 2026, 40 dedicated block placement positions will be available exclusively in rural teaching practices (outside Munich's U-Bahn and S-Bahn network). The objective of the "Rural Block Placement" initiative is to encourage more students to complete placements outside Munich, thereby increasing the visibility and strengthening the role of rural General Practice within medical education. Students may apply for financial support for travel and accommodation costs through the Bavarian Association of General Practitioners and the Perspektive Hausarzt Foundation.

anja.sommer@med.uni-muenchen.de

LMU Insights General Practice 2026: Vaccination in Clinical Practice

Vaccinating, advising, contextualizing – this year's continuing education series offers concise, practice-oriented insights into vaccination in General Practice. PD Dr. Linda Sanftenberg will discuss how AI can support vaccination counselling in older adults. PD Dr. Martin Alberer will address common uncertainties encountered in daily practice. PD Dr. Camilla Rothe – widely recognized for describing Germany's first COVID-19 case – will provide an update on current developments in travel and tropical medicine. Date: Wednesday, 08 July 2026; Time: 17:00–19:00; Location: Campus Innenstadt; Participation is free of charge. CME credits available.

Registration: sebastian.handke@med.uni-muenchen.de

Transatlantic Collaboration Harvard – LMU Continues

The Spring School Pharmacoepidemiology enters its fourth edition. Together with Professor S. Schneeweiss (Harvard Medical School), Professor T. Dreischulte (Institute of General Practice, LMU) will lead the five-day course from 23–27 March 2026 at LMU's Innenstadt Campus. The program includes scientific lectures, journal clubs, and hands-on training in real-world data analysis. The course is fully booked.

saskia.pohl@med.uni-muenchen.de

Munich – Augsburg: Elective on Practice Establishment

The Institute of General Practice at the University of Augsburg has developed an online seminar entitled: "Between Consultation Room and Practice Management: A Starter Kit for Establishing a Practice." Through a new cooperation, this comprehensive and practically oriented elective – covering key aspects of establishing a General Practice – is now available to LMU students.

anja.sommer@med.uni-muenchen.de

IMPRESSUM

Institute for General Practice and Family Medicine
University Hospital of
Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich
Chair: Prof. Dr. Jochen Gensichen
Pettenkoferstr. 10, 80336 München
Tel: 0049(0)89 4400-53779
Fax: 0049(0)89 4400-53520
Email: allgemeinmedizin@med.uni-muenchen.de
www.allgemeinmedizin.med.uni-muenchen.de

Dates & Events

Bavarian General Practitioners' Day
17–18 April 2026 | Marinaforum, Regensburg
Professional policy, continuing education, and collegial exchange

Network for University-Based Continuing Education in General Practice – Career Talk

22 April 2026 | 17:00–18:30
Hybrid event. Registration:
office@stiftung-allgemeinmedizin.de

Dragon Boat Race

03 July 2026 | from 16:00
Olympiasee, Munich



We will once again participate in the traditional Dragon Boat Race at the Olympiasee. Participants and spectators are warmly welcome.

LMU Insights General Practice

08 July 2026 | 17:30–19:30 | St. Vinzenz Haus, LMU Campus Innenstadt
Free participation & 2 CME credits.
Further information available [online](#).
Registration: allgemeinmedizin@med.uni-muenchen.de

Meeting of Teaching Staff – Summer Semester 2026

08 July 2026 | 17:30–19:30 | St. Vinzenz Haus, LMU Campus Innenstadt
The Teaching Staff Meeting for Summer Semester 2026 will be held in person as part of the *LMU Insights General Practice* event. Registration:
anja.sommer@med.uni-muenchen.de

Public Lecture Series "Depression in Dialogue" (via Zoom)

11 March 2026 | 14:00–15:00
"When Pain Affects the Soul"
08 July 2026 | 13:30–14:30
"AI in Psychotherapy"
No registration required.
Zoom link available [online](#).

PTQZ – Pharmacotherapy Quality Improvement Circle 2026

Wednesdays | 17:00–18:30 | St. Vinzenz Haus, LMU Campus Innenstadt
18 March: Heart Failure
24 June: Rational Antibiotic Therapy
23 September: Lipid-Lowering Therapy
16 December: Reimbursement Claims
Participation is free of charge.
Rolling enrollment possible.

Hufeland-Lecture 2026

01 October | DEGAM Congress, Göttingen | This year's award of the Primary Health Care Foundation will be presented to Prof. Wilhelm Niebling, who will deliver the honorary lecture: "Developments, Opportunities, and Risks of Drug Therapy in General Practice."

Medical Ethics Symposium – The Primary Health Care Foundation

16 October 2026 | St. Vinzenz Haus, Munich | Discussion topic: "Obesity: Between Stigma and Identity." Registration:
andrea.bischhoff@med.uni-muenchen.de

Research

AI-Supported Voice Assistant AVA Increases Vaccination Readiness

Patients aged 60 and above with cognitive impairment require participatory vaccination counseling that is sensitive to stigma and cognitive limitations. AVA (AI-supported Vaccination Assistant) facilitates shared decision-making for seasonal influenza vaccination through an AI-supported voice interface. Our findings indicate that AVA, as a resource-efficient support tool for General Practice, contributes to increased vaccination readiness. Further information:

[magdalena.meier@med.uni-muenchen.de](mailto:magdalen.meier@med.uni-muenchen.de)

What Do Sensing Data Reveal About Depression?

The DOOR study strengthens primary care for patients with depression through psychoeducation and innovative digital data capture. The Oura Ring, for example, measures sleep, activity, and recovery parameters, providing clinically relevant longitudinal information. We invite practices to participate and contribute to shaping future-oriented care for patients with depression, particularly in preparation for the forthcoming Disease Management Program (DMP) Depression.

susanne.winter@med.uni-muenchen.de

PARTNER Study: Advancing Medication Safety Together

How can medication safety be improved in routine practice? One important component is enhanced collaboration between General Practices and community pharmacies. The feasibility and acceptance of this approach were demonstrated in the PARTNER pilot study. The main study – involving more than 40 practices and pharmacies and over 270 patients across three sites (Munich, Witten, Bielefeld) – is approaching completion. Initial results are expected in autumn 2026.

annette.haerdlein@med.uni-muenchen.de

Post-ICU Care: AI-Based Brief Intervention for Subsyndromal PTSD

Approximately one in four hospital patients reports distressing memories and stress symptoms following intensive care treatment. The PICTURE study demonstrated that narrative exposure therapy delivered by General Practitioners can alleviate symptoms. We are now investigating whether an AI-supported conversational intervention may reduce uncertainty after ICU discharge, mitigate stress, and improve long-term health and quality of life.

sebastian.handke@med.uni-muenchen.de

Suicide Prevention: Recognizing Depression Behind Somatic Symptoms

A recent analysis from the POKAL study shows that somatic symptoms are associated with depressive symptoms and, indirectly, with suicidal ideation. Suicide prevention in primary care therefore begins with the early identification of depression – even when it presents primarily as fatigue, pain, or sleep disturbance. Clinical implication: Depression should be systematically considered and appropriately screened for in patients presenting with predominantly somatic complaints.

robert_philipp.kosilek@med.uni-muenchen.de

PICTURE Awarded the Roemer Prize for Psychosomatic Medicine 2026

The publication of the PICTURE study in *The BMJ* (07 May 2025) has been honored with the Roemer Prize of the German College of Psychosomatic Medicine (DKPM). The award recognizes our contribution to integrating psychosomatic perspectives into General Practice. The prize ceremony will take place on 06 March in Berlin.

jochen.gensichen@med.uni-muenchen.de

Three Questions for Clinician Scientist Dr. med. Sophie Schneider

To conclude this issue, we offer a brief insight into the professional perspective of Dr. med. Sophie Schneider, physician in training within the Hausarzt 360° leadership program. *What motivates you?* "I aim to bridge the gap between theoretical guidelines and the lived realities of my patients. As a Clinician Scientist, I can contribute not only to patient care but also to strengthening the evidence base." *Why General Practice?* "I value the continuity of patient relationships and the breadth of clinical challenges." *Your current research focus?* "I am investigating the mental health of young mothers who develop symptoms of PTSD following childbirth, exploring whether narrative exposure therapy may be beneficial."

sophie.schneider@med.uni-muenchen.de

Publications

A directory of current publications is available here: [Homepage > Publications](#)

Career Opportunities

Interested in joining our team? Current vacancies: [Homepage > Jobs](#).

Our newsletter is published three times per year.

Subscriptions / cancellations: allgemeinmedizin@med.uni-muenchen.de

Editor of this issue: Dr. med. J. Ziegler, Physician in Training, Hausarzt 360°