

Feminist Healthcare Research Group

We believe that we need a New Health Movement which challenges the current healthcare system. In this project, we aim to encourage each other to practise making demands, to reach out and connect to other groups and their struggles, to inform ourselves about their needs and perspectives and to form alliances for making all of our intersecting demands heard.

When we think of the healthcare system, we often imagine an abstract entity that seems too huge and too complex for us to challenge by ourselves. Because it is difficult to fully understand the complexity of the healthcare system, it seems hard for us to express what we believe must change. Yet the effects of an unfair, harmful, structurally racist, classist, ableist, stressful, understaffed and/or underfunded healthcare system are tangible for all of us. We insist that the perspectives of users of the healthcare system are essential, and should be decisive in how the healthcare system needs to change.

What healthcare services would be good for you?



This project draws its inspiration from the historic Health Movement (Gesundheitsbewegung), which was vital in West Germany during the late 1970s and 1980s. The Health Movement channelled dissatisfaction with the healthcare system and proposed new models for how healthcare could be done differently. The Health Movement was successful in criticising classism and hierarchy in the medical sector, as well as the sexism and patriarchy structuring the medical complex. But now, it is up to us to add missing perspectives to the historic Health Movement's approaches, and to centre the voices and needs of people most deserving and currently most deprived of fair, just and accessible healthcare.



We demand

Wishes and demands for a New Health Movement

How would you envision a concrete space where you would receive the healthcare you need?

Making demands is tiring. We have some examples for you that can encourage you to dream of a better healthcare system.

Patients' self-organisation

Can you imagine a situation in healthcare where patients spend a significant amount of time together, or visit regularly? A dialysis centre, rehab, neonatal or oncology station? What environment would encourage them to self-organise? What could they create together that responds to their needs?



If you encounter this poster in a healthcare situation and you feel stressed, under pressure, or worried, you are invited to place your hands on your chest and take a few deep breaths.

Let yourself know, I have the right to:

Access

Imagine how you would access a healthcare service without any barriers. Do you require deliveries, online consultation or outreach services? Where would you find information? How would you make an appointment? What do you require to fully make use of services?

Healthcare education

In which areas of healthcare would you like to have more knowledge? About medication, methods, treatments? Can you imagine an encouraging format to learn about healthcare outside of professional training? Where could such healthcare education take place? Which courses would you like to attend?

Healthcare doula

Imagine you would get personal support to navigate healthcare services, let's call this person a healthcare doula. A doula supports people in a process of change. Would the healthcare doula accompany you to appointments? Would they keep track of files? Would they research alternative treatments or different services? Where would you need support?

Transparency and consensus

Imagine in all areas of healthcare, the files written on you – the diagnoses, the therapy and medication prescribed – were part of a transparent consensual collaborative writing process. Picture one situation in which a collaborative consensual writing of a treatment, diagnoses or prescription would have been important for you.



Where do you encounter barriers in healthcare?

Which forms of support do you need to express your healthcare needs?



- be here
- be heard out
- be treated kindly and respectfully
- receive advice, care and good treatment
- accessible communication
- be addressed with my correct name and pronouns
- be taken seriously in my health-related concerns and worries
- be seen and respected in my full identity
- access good healthcare
- ask questions, have doubts
- hear a second opinion

I deserve it!
I matter!

We demand! Wishes and Demands for a New Health Movement Feminist Healthcare Research Group (Julia Bonn and Inga Zimprich): The New Health Movement (FHRG together with Alina Buchberger, Huong Nam Nguyen Thi, Pasquale Virginie Rotter, Kim Wichera)

The project group The New Health Movement talks with self-organised political initiatives and individuals about their needs for an accessible and fair healthcare system. Within this project, initiatives and individuals such as Bundesfachnetz Gesundheit und Rassismus, Casa Kuà, Mine Wenzel, <Platz dal>, Romani Phen and Women in Exile collect their demands in workshops or meet in internal focus groups

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Editing: The New Health Movement project group Participating initiatives and individuals: Bundesfachnetz Gesundheit und Rassismus, Casa Kuà, Mine Wenzel, <Platz dal>, Romani Phen and Women in Exile Poster design & illustration: Tina Kaden Proofreading: Stassja Mrozinski More accessible versions and a German translation of this poster will be available soon on