

Title: Prof. Dr. med.
First name: Peter
Last name: Borusiak
Institution: Social Pediatric Center Bremen
Country: Germany
City: Bremen
Phone: ++49 421 497 2277
Email: peter.borusiak@gesundheitnord.de

Abstract title: Social Pediatric Centers (SPZ) in Germany

Background: There is a rising number of children and adolescents with developmental problems, neurological diseases, multiple handicaps, complex problems or chronic diseases posing a challenge for the health care system.

Method: For these children a nationwide network of approximately 160 "Social Pediatric Centers" [SPC; „Sozialpädiatrische Zentren (SPZ)] exists in Germany in addition to the basic pediatric care. The SPC consist of multidisciplinary teams involving specialized pediatricians (often neuropsychiatrists), psychologists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and remedial teachers. Most SPC work with the systemic approach taking the whole familial and social situation into account. Depending on the specific situation and circumstances the children are evaluated from the different point of view and the results are discussed in team sessions with a draft of a resource-orientated and ICF-based plan for therapy and pedagogical support.

Results: According to own data approximately 350.000 patients and their families are treated per year (data from 2014). Most patients are seen several times a year with a thorough follow-up. Most SPC have additional interdisciplinary consultation hours with external cooperation partners like specialized children neuro-orthopedists, orthopedic technicians or genetics.

Discussion: Additionally, for more than 20 years a working group of members of the SPC-staff is busy with aspects of quality in health care in children and adolescents with developmental problems. Structural and conceptual guidelines were developed relating to different aspects of care starting with a special approach for a better assorting of problems in complex chronic conditions (MBS – multidimensional balanced system)