

# How do Social, Migration-Related and Psychological Determinants Influence the Two Measures of Health Literacy (HL) for Migrants with a Background from Turkey or Ex-Yugoslavia in Austria?

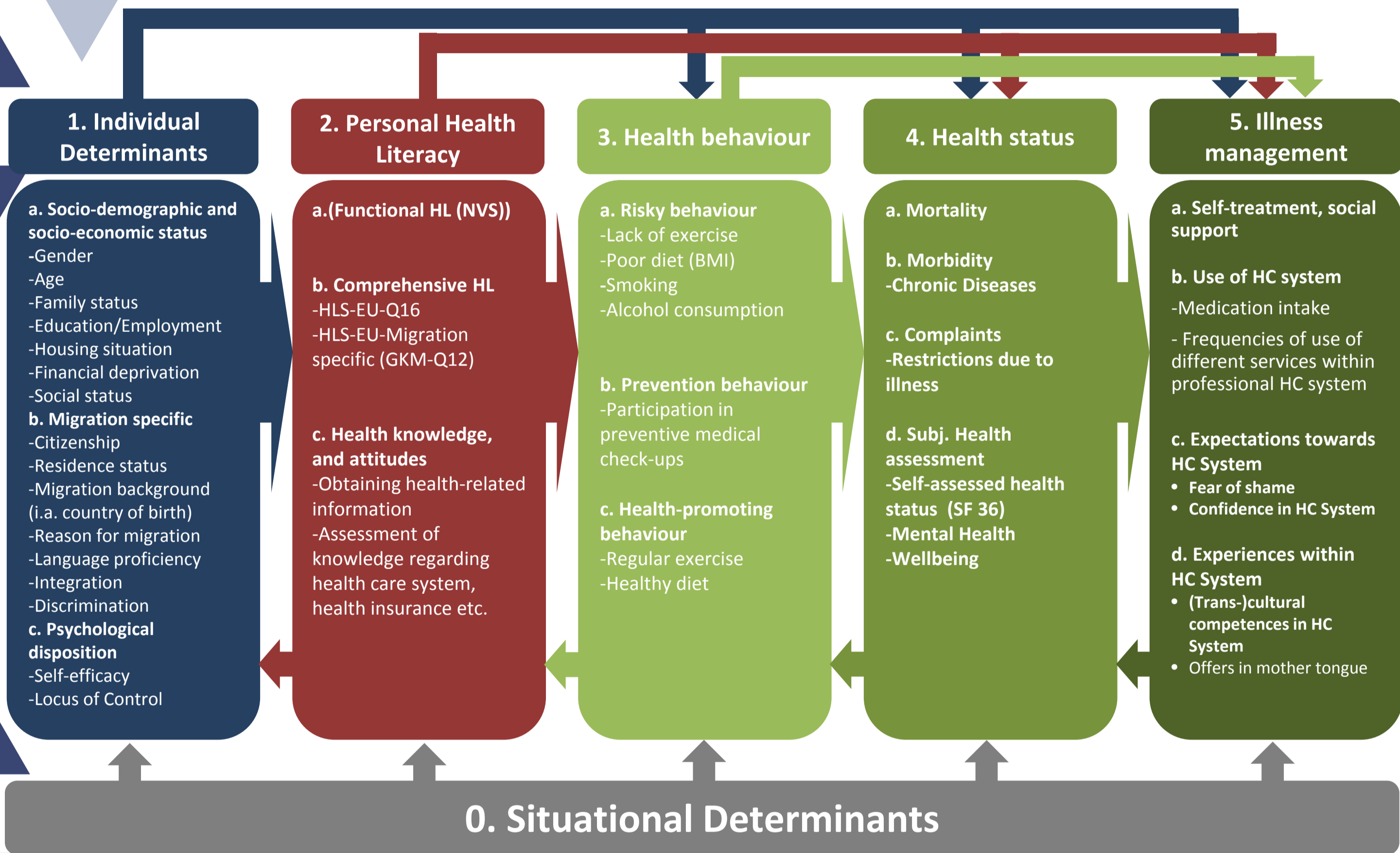
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## Introduction

"Health literacy is linked to literacy and entails people's knowledge, motivation and competences to access, understand, appraise, and apply health information in order to make judgments and take decisions in everyday life concerning healthcare, disease prevention and health promotion to maintain or improve quality of life during the life course." (Sorensen et al., 2012)

Health literacy (HL) is not only a strong predictor for the health status of individuals, but also an important means of promoting and maintaining the populations' health. In the international literature, migrant status is regarded as one of the risk factors for limited HL and its negative consequences. (Ng et al. 2013; Rudd 2004) However, there are yet few studies concerning the HL of migrants and none for Austria. The LBIHR study on migrants' HL and health related problems in Austria (2013-2014), focussed on two selected major migrant groups: people with a background from Turkey or Ex-Yugoslavia and used a qualitative and quantitative design.

## Generic Framework Model for Determinants and Consequences of HL (Indicators)



## Methods: a Mixed Methods Approach

### QUALITATIVE STUDY

Expert interviews	Guideline interviews, face-to-face or via telephone (53 interviews in all 9 federal states)
Focus groups (FG)	8 FG in Turkish (TR), 5 FG in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, (B/C/S) 1 FG with adolescents with mixed migrant backgrounds
Analysis	Content analysis which was used as basis for adapting the existing HLS-EU survey and developing the an additional migrant specific HL measure (GKM-Q12)

### QUANTITATIVE STUDY

Sample/Data collection	Random sampling/telephone survey in 5 languages(German, B/C/S,TR)
Sample size	N=625 (Ex-Yugoslavia N=300, Turkey N=325)
HL measures	HLS-Q16 (Rasch-scaled shortform of the HLS-EU-Q47) and development of a migrant-specific HL-index (GKM-Q12)
Analysis	Correlation analysis and regression analysis

### Two HL Measures: Items examples (HLS-Q16 & GKM-Q12)

On a scale from very easy to very difficult. How easy would you say it to...

- ...understand what your doctor says to you? (HLS-Q16)
- ...obtain health information in an language that is understandable to you? (GKM-Q12)

One of the GUIDING RESEARCH QUESTIONS was on how selected social, migration-related and psychological determinants influence the two measures of HL (HLS-Q16, GKM-Q12) for these two major migrants groups in Austria.

## Results of a Regression Analysis:

A regression analysis was preformed to see which determinants (det.) are associated with health literacy (HLS-Q16, GKM-Q12).

Multivariate associations (regression analysis) between HL (HLS-Q16, GKM-Q12) and the social, migration-related and psychological determinant (beta weights and corr. R2)

Health literacy (HLS-Q16, GKM-Q12)		TR (HLS-Q16)	BCS (HLS-Q16)	TR (GKM-Q12)	BCS (GKM-Q12)	
		β	β	β	β	
Social	Gender	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	
	Age	-,144*	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	
	Education	Univ./High School	n.s.	,257**	n.s.	n.s.
		BHS/Kolleg	n.s.	,206*	n.s.	n.s.
		AHS/apprenticeship	n.s.	,290**	n.s.	n.s.
		no compul. school/ compul. school	n.s.	Ref.	n.s.	n.s.
Financial Deprivation	-,266**	-,172*	-,257**	-,214**		
Social Status	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.		
Migration-related	Generation of migrants	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	
	Residence permit status	-,132*	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	
	Proficiency in German (self-assessed)	n.s.	n.s.	-,172*	-,156*	
	Feeling of being at home	,137*	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	
	Feeling of discrimination	n.s.	n.s.	,115*	,183**	
Psychological	Self-Esteem	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.	
	Int. Locus of control	,120*	n.s.	,138*	n.s.	
	Ext. Locus of control	n.s.	-,171*	n.s.	n.s.	
<b>Corr. R<sup>2</sup></b>		<b>,277</b>	<b>,195</b>	<b>,313</b>	<b>,276</b>	
<b>Corr. R<sup>2</sup> w/o social det.</b>		<b>,190</b>	<b>,145</b>	<b>,246</b>	<b>,246</b>	
<b>Corr. R<sup>2</sup> w/o migration-related det.</b>		,237	,191	,296	,254	
<b>Corr. R<sup>2</sup> w/o psychological det.</b>		,271	,155	,296	,248	
N		265	237	274	225	

\* significant at  $\alpha = 0,05$  (2-sided) \*\* significant at  $\alpha = 0,01$  (2-sided) n.s. – not significant.

Gender: 0 = male, 1 = female; Age in years; Financial Deprivation (Factor Scores): low to high; self-assessed social status: low to high; Generation: 0 = 1. Generation, 1 = 2. Generation; Residence permit status: 0 = Austrian citizenship, 1 = permanent/limited; proficiency in German n: very good to very bad; Feeling of being at home: 0 = hardly/not at all, 1 = fully/rather feeling at home; feeling of discrimination: 0 = always/most of the time/sometimes; 1 = hardly/never; Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale: high to low; Internal Locus of Control Scale: low to high; external Locus of Control Scale low to high;

- Generally (over all models) the models lose the greatest explanatory value for HL if the social determinants (especially financial deprivation, education, age) are excluded - compared to the models that excluded migration-related or psychological determinants.
- Migration-related determinants have a stronger effect for migrants-specific HL (GKM-Q12) than for the general HLS-Q16 measure.
- For the migrant-specific HL measure GKM-Q12 the determinants explain more variance than for the general HLS-Q16 measure.
- In the BCS sample for HL (HLS-Q16) only social and psychological but no migration-related determinants could be demonstrated in comparison to TR.
- Financial deprivation is an important determinant of both HL measures (HLS-Q16, GKM-Q12)! This could be demonstrated in the regression analysis and was also emphasised in the expert interviews and focus groups.

### References:

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