

GERMANY

Decision-Making

Stakeholders: National Immunisation Technical Advisor Group (NITAG), federal states government, Public Health Institute, health insurers and licencing authority

Introducing a new vaccine: The NITAG guides the Ministry of Health and federal states in making vaccine policy decisions, with input from over 100 health insurers and the licensing authority. Funding for new vaccines is slow, with political intervention sometimes impeding the inclusion of innovative vaccines recommended by NITAG. NITAG recommendations (followed by financing within 3 months) may take years for new innovative products.

Financing

Primary funding source: Health insurance primarily and private financing for non-reimbursable vaccines eg. Travel vaccines.

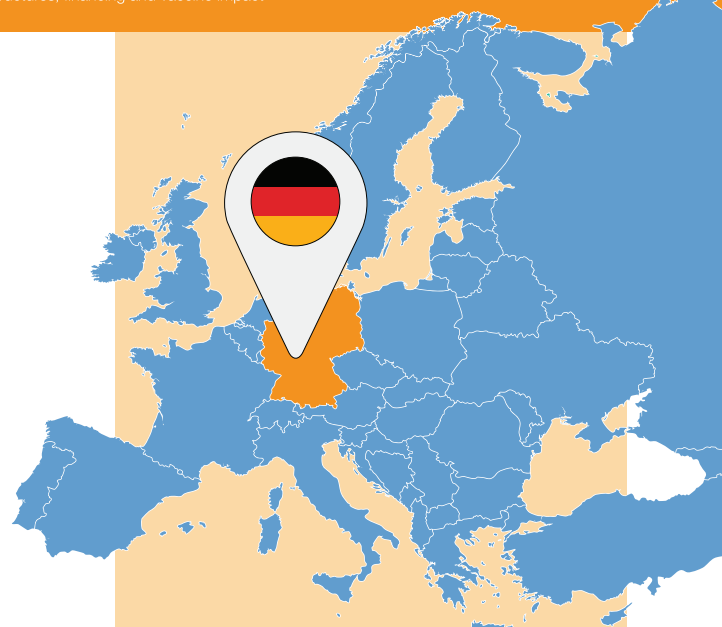
Critical Financing Challenges: Constraint on healthcare costs, which often overlooks the cost-effectiveness of vaccines.

	Yes	No
Ministry of Finance Involvement		✓
Ringfencing of Prevention and Vaccine Budget		✓
Financial Mechanisms for Sustainability		✓
External Funding Sources		✓
Influence of Public-Private Partnerships		✓

Landscape

The current vaccine funding and delivery system has been stable since 2000, with minimal changes over the decades.

Future: Although vaccine financing in Germany remains uncertain, no significant changes are anticipated in the funding approach. During the COVID pandemic, the COVID-19 vaccine was 100% paid for by the government, which was out of the budget of health insurers. However, this was unique and has yet to be implemented elsewhere.



Decentralised Health System



12.7%

of GDP spent
on healthcare



6.4%

of healthcare
budget is spent
on prevention



43%

Over-65 influenza
vaccination
coverage (2022)

Adult vaccination (18+) recommendation against 9 diseases:

COVID-19
Diphtheria
Tetanus
Pertussis
Poliomyelitis
Pneumococcal disease
Measles
Mumps
Influenza
Herpes Zoster

All are
government
funded

Influenza vaccination

