

How to find a multilingual doctor in the Cologne/Gummersbach area

A list of all doctor's offices in the Rheinland region are available via:

<https://patienten.kvno.de/praxissuche>

Unfortunately, the search engine is only available in German.

Translation

The image shows a screenshot of a search form titled 'Praxissuche' (Practice Search) on the website 'patienten.kvno.de'. The form is in German but includes English translations for each field, which are highlighted with red boxes. Red arrows point from these translations to the corresponding input fields in the form. The form fields and their translations are as follows:

Field Label (German)	Field Label (English)
Anrede	
Frau/Herr	
Nachname (ohne Titel)	Last name of the doctor
(falls bekannt)	
Postleitzahl	Postcode
Ort	City
Straße	Street
Kreis	Region
bitte auswählen	
Tätigkeit	Occupational activity
bitte auswählen	

The screenshot shows a search engine interface for finding doctors. It features several dropdown menus and a checkbox, each with a red box and a label:

- Fachgebiete**: Dropdown menu with "bitte auswählen" and label "Field of work".
- Zusatzbezeichnungen**: Dropdown menu with "bitte auswählen" and label "Additional field of work".
- Psychotherapieverfahren**: Dropdown menu with "bitte auswählen" and label "Psychotherapeutical treatments".
- Suche nach Hausarzt**: Checkbox with label "Search for family doctor" and a red arrow pointing to it.
- Behandlungsprogramme**: Dropdown menu with "bitte auswählen" and label "Special treatment programs".
- Angebote für Menschen mit Behinderung***: Dropdown menu with "bitte auswählen" and label "Offers for people with special needs".
- Fremdsprachenkenntnisse***: Dropdown menu with "beliebig" and label "Language skills" and a red arrow pointing to it.

Below the dropdowns, there is a note: "* Diese Informationen beruhen auf Selbstauskünften." and the date "Stand: 14.10.2021". At the bottom, there are two red buttons: "Treffer anzeigen" and "Neue Suche". Below these are two more red boxes: "Search" and "New search". To the right of these boxes are links for "Kontakt" and "Impressum".

How to use the doctor's office search engine:

You do not need to fill out every field. Only fill out the fields that are interesting for you.

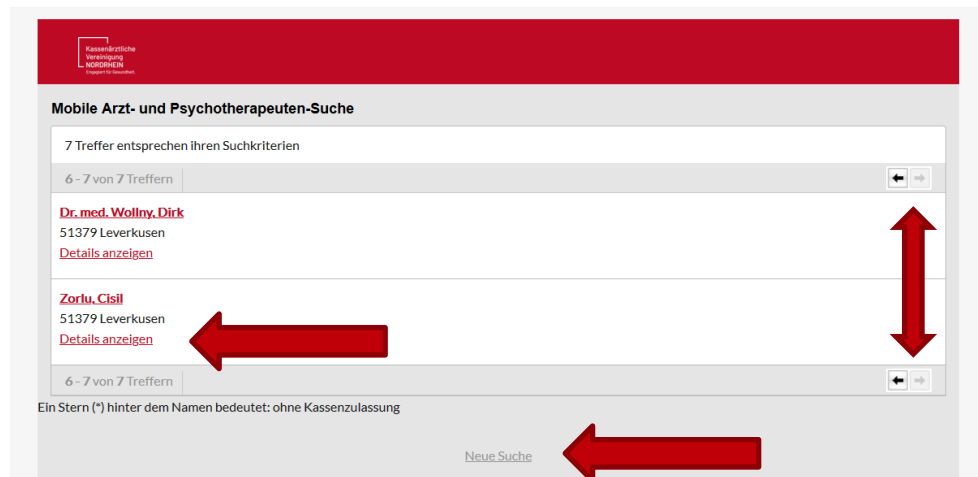
- First, think about what kind of treatment you will need from the doctor. Usually, you will need to visit a general practitioner (specialized in "Allgemeinmedizin" or "Innere Medizin") first. If they are not specialized for your needs, they will refer you to a more specialized doctor (Facharzt). You can select this under "Tätigkeit / occupational activity" or "Fachgebiete / field of work".
 - o Usual exceptions are the gynecologist or dentist among others. Here you can make an appointment without a referral slip.
- To find a family doctor to visit during your whole studies please check the box "Hausarzt". In this case, you will not need to select a "Fachgebiet" or "Tätigkeit". In Germany, patients usually visit the same doctor for non-emergency treatments, like vaccinations, blood work, etc. That doctor is called "Hausarzt" (family doctor). The "Hausarzt" will also keep the medical records of the patient. If you visit a more specialized doctor, they will usually transfer the information regarding the treatment to the family doctor afterwards. Each doctor usually has a limit on how many patients can be accepted to treat as the family doctor. Especially in rural areas, many doctors already reached the limit and no longer accept new patients or keep waiting lists. Therefore, we recommend degree-seeking students to find a family doctor as soon as possible for future treatments.

Please note: If you need urgent medical care, a doctor is not allowed to turn you down. Often they tell you on the phone, that they can no longer accept new patients. In this case, explain the urgency and that you currently have no family doctor in

Germany available for treatment. In the worst case, just go to their office to ask for immediate treatment. In this case, please prepare for longer waiting times.

- If you are looking for a doctor near you, fill out the fields related to location. At first, we recommend to submit your postcode. Bigger cities like Leverkusen and Cologne are separated into different postcodes. If there are no matches, you will need to widen the radius. In this case, select the name of the city next. If there are still no matches, try a city nearby or – for the broader Gummersbach area – you can select “Oberbergischer Kreis”. Make sure that you delete more detailed specifications – e.g. if you are looking for a doctor within the “Oberbergischer Kreis” all the fields above should be empty.
- Especially helpful for non-German speaking students is the search “Fremdsprachenkenntnisse” (language skills of the doctor). Select the desired language to find doctors, who are able to consult in that language as well.
- To show the search results click “Treffer anzeigen” to clear the selection click “Neue Suche”

This is how a search result can look like:



- To show detailed information regarding the doctor please click on “Details anzeigen”
- To skip to the next or previous page, click the arrows on the right site.
- To create a new search click on “Neue Suche”

Under details, contact information, information on treatment offers, etc. can be found:

