

DIGIMED BAYERN

Achievements and future development

Cardiovascular diseases remain the most common cause of death worldwide and also in Bavaria. Over the past six years, DigiMed Bayern has contributed to advanced cardiovascular care based on a total funding of around EUR 24.5 million. With the aim of establishing a predictive, preventive, personalized, and participatory (P4) medicine, the flagship project has focused on the world's most common disease, atherosclerosis. Under DigiMed Bayern, impactful measures for heart health have been developed, but also molecular big data and associated digital technologies.

Examples of the initiative's successes

- Over 150,000 people have downloaded the HerzFit app, developed by DigiMed Bayern in collaboration with the German Heart Foundation, to digitally monitor and improve their heart health.
- A total of 28,000 children have been screened for dangerously high blood lipid levels due to the hereditary condition familial hypercholesterolemia (FH). Affected persons receive focused medical consulting and highly effective preventive treatment.



- Valuable clinical, molecular and health insurance datasets have been made available in large quantity and quality, but also in a highly controlled framework.
- In 2023, the launch of the DigiMed Bayern Secure Cloud established an IT infrastructure that is unique in Germany, enabling the secure use of health data for AI-driven medical research and the continued advancement of precision medicine.

These and other achievements were recognized at the DigiMed Bayern Symposium on 6 November, 2024, by the Bavarian Minister of Health, Care and Prevention, Judith Gerlach. Furthermore, the project has been extended through the end of 2027.

HerzFit app: over 150,000 downloads

An interdisciplinary team, led by top cardiologists, developed the HerzFit app, which has been available free of charge in the app stores since April 2022. HerzFit allows users to digitally monitor and improve their heart health while contributing data to research efforts. With more than 150,000 downloads, the app is a compelling testament to its success.

Vroni study: Heart attack at 35? Not me!

In the ongoing Vroni study, initiated by the TUM University Hospital, German Heart Center Munich, 28,000 children in Bavaria have been screened for the genetic disorder familial hypercholesterolemia (FH). More than 250 affected families have been identified. The hereditary condition causes

severely elevated cholesterol levels and, if untreated, significantly increases the risk of early cardiac death in young adulthood. The Vroni study was expanded to northern Germany last year and, in line with the "Healthy Heart Act", is expected to be integrated into routine healthcare across Germany.

Secure cloud for AI-supported research and personalized medicine

The DigiMed Bayern consortium developed a secure, data protection-compliant cloud IT-infrastructure, led by the Leibniz Supercomputing Center of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Based on this IT-platform, health data can be jointly used for research and linked to genome, proteome, transcriptome and metabolome data, which were also collected through high-throughput methods as part of the project. This database is used for AI-powered research aimed at advancing personalized treatments and therapies, thereby further promoting precision medicine. Researchers involved in the project have gained valuable insights into disease-relevant mechanisms, laid the groundwork for developing biomarkers and drug approaches, and created a comprehensive dataset that will remain a crucial resource for cardiovascular research and medicine for years to come.

Minister of Health announces continued funding at DigiMed Bayern Symposium

The success of the DigiMed Bayern projects was acknowledged at this year's symposium by Judith Gerlach, Bavarian State

Minister for Health, Care and Prevention. She also announced that the Free State of Bavaria will support the continuation and further development of DigiMed Bayern Secure Cloud 2.0 with around EUR 3 million in funding over the next three years, through the end of 2027.

This secure IT research infrastructure will also serve as a foundation for the future Bavarian Genome Computing Center, which aims to improve care for cancer and rare diseases as part of the national research network. The goal is to integrate healthcare and research.

With its pioneering use of molecular big data and digital health technologies, DigiMed Bayern is not only setting new standards in cardiovascular care, but also laying the groundwork for a future-oriented, data-driven healthcare system – locally in Bavaria, nationally in Germany, and across Europe through its contributions to the European Health Data Space.



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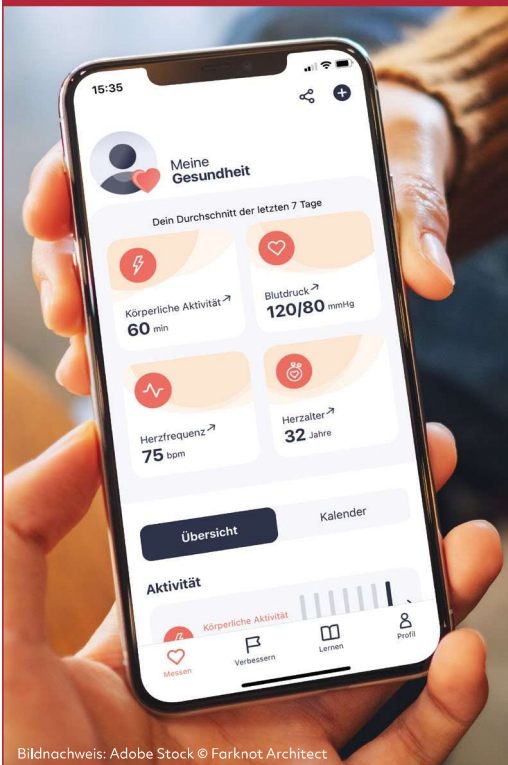
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Visit www.digimedbayern.de/en/ for further information and stay tuned on LinkedIn via #DigiMedBayern for news and events!



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