

Cultural prescribing is the referral of patients to locally available art and cultural offerings by healthcare professionals. It can also include self-referral or referral from family and friends.

What for? – Goals



Well-being & Quality of life



Social Connection



Express oneself in a creative, artistic or cultural way

The goal is to improve well-being and quality of life by offering social connection and learning to express oneself in a creative, artistic or cultural way.



Increased health and well-being of participants



Increased engagement with social activities, communities and cultural and art offerings



Decreased demand for health services



Reduction in costs to health services



The average return on investment can be more than two-fold

Why Culture on Prescription?

Culture on Prescription in partner countries



Romania

Culture on Prescription is currently supported by non-governmental organizations. Public policy or programme is missing.



Portugal

Social prescribing started in 2016 by promoting physical activity. Other pilot projects for physical activity promotion take place.



Ireland

Social prescribing is a focus point of the Health Service Executive and is available in more than 40 communities.



Germany

Several isolated initiatives of Culture on Prescription exist, but however not been tested and funded. Recent National Strategy against loneliness may support this initiative.



Belgium

Culture on Prescription is relatively new. Isolated initiatives exist and have been trialled in recent years. Chance: biannual happiness report.



Netherlands

Social and cultural prescribing is present with Wellbeing on Prescription offered by 1/3 of municipalities and with pilots for culture on prescription. Progress is being made.



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