

Strengthening Health Systems in the Western Balkans: A Translational Perspective

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Abstract

Background: Health systems across the Western Balkans face shared challenges in workforce capacity, access to medicines, and the translation of research into practice. **Objectives:** This paper examines opportunities for evidence-informed strengthening of regional health systems. **Methodology:** A narrative synthesis of regional health policy literature and comparative indicators. **Key findings:** Coordinated investment in translational research infrastructure and open science can accelerate improvements in care. **Conclusions:** A regional, interdisciplinary platform supports the uptake of research into health policy and practice.