



# Utilizing the Theoretical Domains Framework to investigate community pharmacists' views on drug-related problem management in routine pharmacy practice

**Danielle Hochhold<sup>1</sup>, Lotte S. Nørgaard<sup>2</sup>, Derek Stewart<sup>3</sup>, Anita E. Weidmann<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Clinical Pharmacy, Leopold Franzens Universität, Innsbruck, Austria,

<sup>2</sup> Department of Pharmacy, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

<sup>3</sup> QU Health, College of Pharmacy, Doha, Qatar

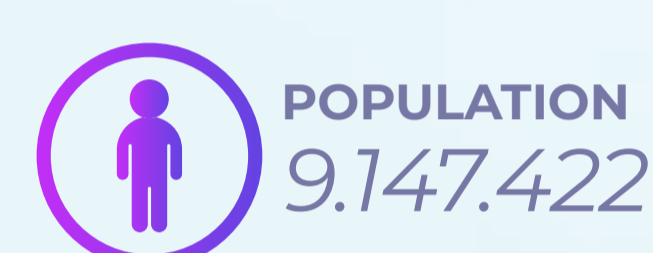
## Background

The Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF) is a valuable tool for exploring healthcare professionals' perceptions of their roles and responsibilities, particularly in the context of patient care. Comprising 14 domains each containing a set of constructs the TDF provides a structured approach to analysing factors that shape behaviour[1]. Applied in a variety of healthcare settings, the TDF has identified key barriers and facilitators, such as role clarity, contextual challenges and beliefs about outcomes. Considering the evident absence of a unified approach for addressing drug related problems (DRPs) across Europe, the TDF was employed to examine the perspectives of community pharmacists in Austria.

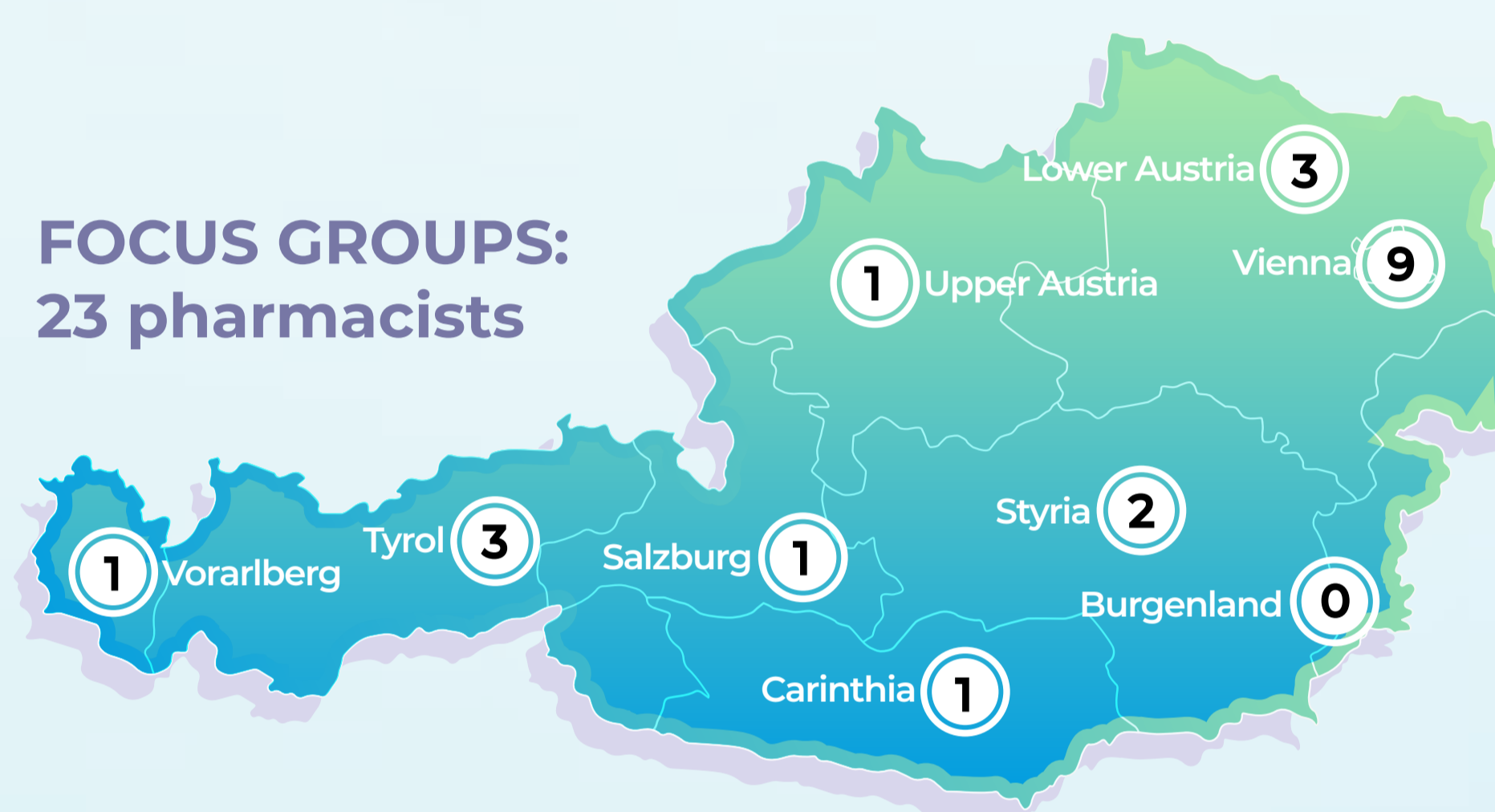
## Methods

Four focus group discussions were conducted with a purposive sample of 23 Austrian community pharmacists. In developing the topic guide, the TDF was used as a theoretical foundation to address relevant domains. Two researchers independently coded the verbatim transcripts deductively using the 84 constructs of the TDF. The identified constructs were summarised to generate themes.

### AUSTRIA



### FOCUS GROUPS: 23 pharmacists



### WORK EXPERIENCE

0-4 years: 5  
5-9 Years: 2  
10-14 years: 1  
15-20 years: 8  
More than 20 years: 7

## Purpose

This study aimed to use the Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF) to systematically explore the behavioural determinants influencing community pharmacists' management of drug-related problems (DRPs). By structuring the focus group topic guide around the 14 domains of the TDF and the coding around the 84 constructs, this study sought to identify specific factors influencing pharmacists' practice, thereby informing future collaborative efforts.



## Findings

Domains such as environmental context and resources, knowledge, social/professional role and identity, and beliefs about skills were most pressing to the participants. The lack of DRP documentation and limited inter-professional collaboration were identified as primary barriers to the management of DRPs. The TDF's structured approach helped to identify the factors influencing pharmacists' behaviour in the management of DRPs. The coding with the 84 constructs of the TDF proved to be a time-consuming process, necessitating extensive discussions within the research group and a heightened level of immersion in the TDF constructs to reach agreement.

## Conclusion

The TDF served as a comprehensive tool to explore the complexity of community pharmacists' behaviours in relation to DRP management, providing insight into key behavioural determinants and practical challenges. By systematically categorising behavioural influences, the TDF highlighted key issues such as the lack of DRP documentation and the need for greater