



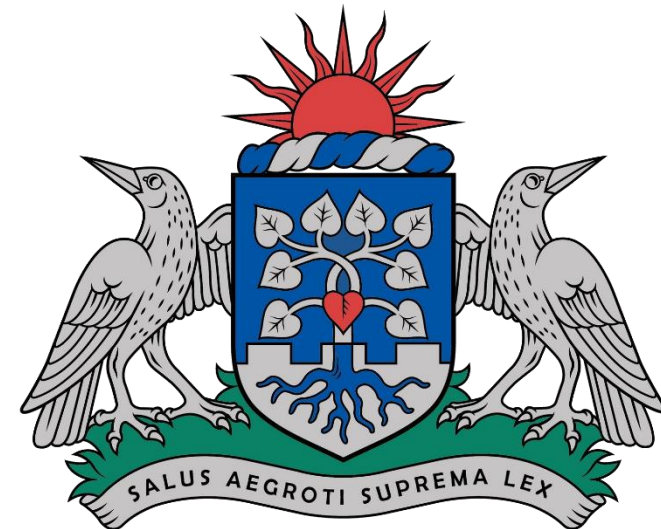
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SLIMNĪCA

# Residency in Latvia

## The role of UH

Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital

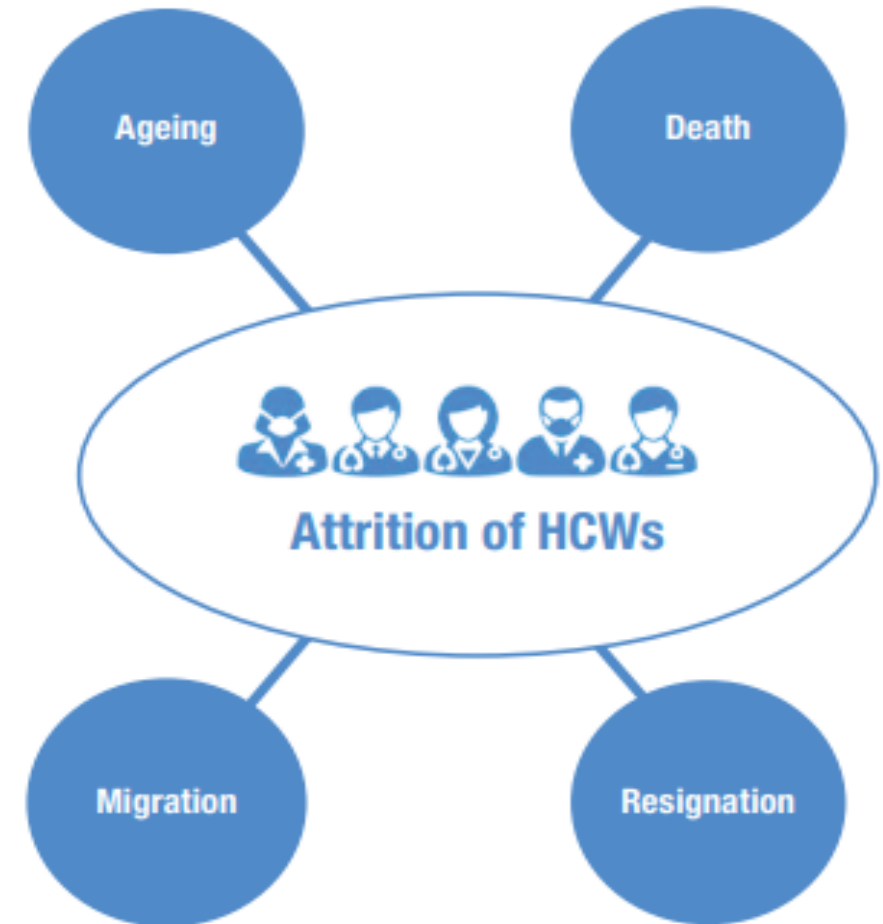
October 2, 2024



Prognosis: EU 27 countries at 2030 will have deficit of **4.1 milj. Health care providers**

- 0.6 milj. doctors
- 2.3 milj. nurses
- 1.3 milj. others

**Figure 1:** Main dimensions of health and care worker attrition



Source: authors' own.

# The University hospital in health sector

- Student internships and clinical practices
- Postdoctoral Continuing medical education
- Internal hospital staff training
- **Residency programmes**

# Student internships and clinical practices in the Hospital

In 2023:

- **1,109 students** in clinical internships at the hospital (15,634 student days)
- In the hospital's voluntary internships (so-called volunteering), **74 students**

# Continuing Education

The continuation of previously acquired education



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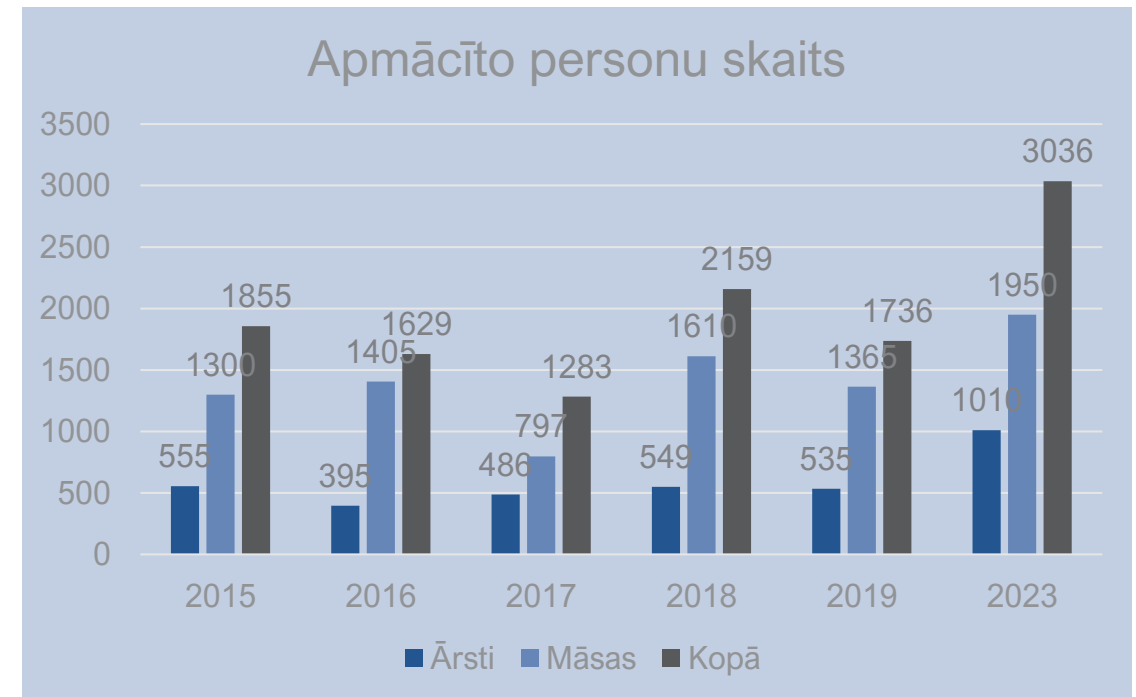
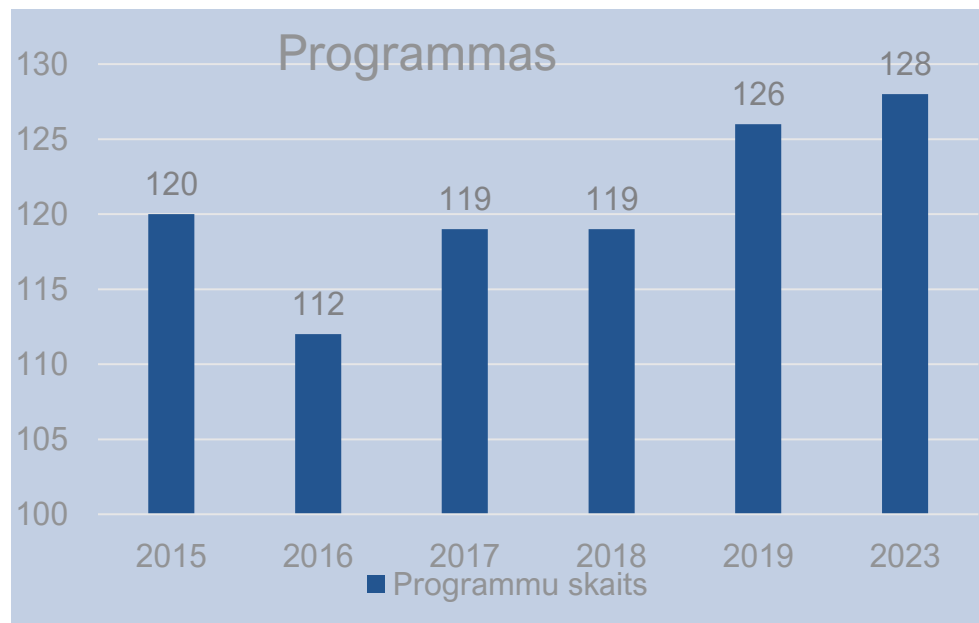


# Continuing Medical Education (CME) Programs

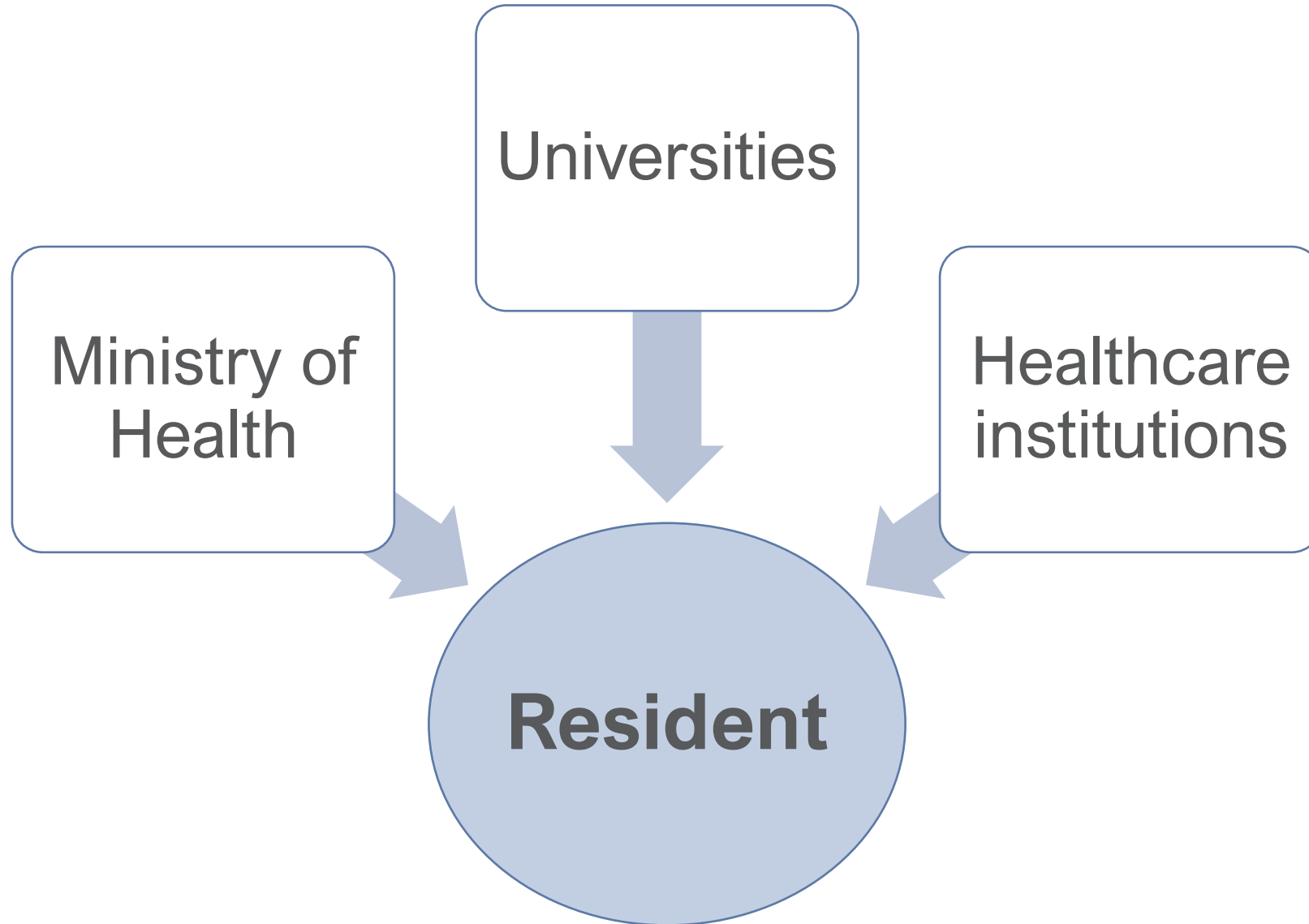
1. Programs allow medical professionals to stay abreast of the latest advancements in medicine, ensuring they can provide the best possible care.
2. Programs cover a wide range of topics, including new technologies, treatment protocols, and ethical considerations.
3. Programs often provide hands-on workshops and simulations to enhance clinical skills and ensure competent practice.
4. **Programs in Latvia are accredited by the Latvian Medical Association or Latvian Nurses Association, ensuring they meet high quality standards.**

# Stradins CUH – the largest provider of medical continuing education in the country

- In 2023, 3,036 healthcare professionals were trained
- The Hospital provides 128 continuing education programs



# Residency system: the only way to be certified





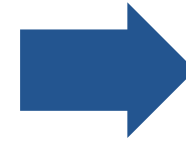
## Ministry of Health

- **Regulation & Oversight**
- Sets national healthcare priorities
- Determines number of residency slots
- Provides funding for budget residents
- Monitors program quality and standards



## Universities (RSU, LU)

- **Program Development & Academic Training**
- Designs and accredits residency programs
- Manages admissions and placements
- Provides some theoretical education & research
- Organizes exams



## Hospitals

- **Clinical Training & Supervision**
- Provides hands-on experience in real medical settings
- Ensures clinical supervision and mentorship
- Monitors residents' clinical competencies
- Provides theoretical education & research

# Becoming a Resident



## Medical Education

- Doctor degrees – University of Latvia and Riga Stradins university.
- **Medical Diploma:** 6 years
- Graduates qualify as **doctors**.
- Postgraduate residency is needed for specialization

## Residency Application

After obtaining the medical diploma, the graduate must apply for residency training. This is done through a centralized application process run by Latvian universities, which is the main provider of medical residency training.

## Admission Requirements:

- **General Medical Diploma** (from an accredited institution, Latvian or foreign)
- **Latvian Language Proficiency:** A sufficient level of Latvian language is required
- An **interview** for the competition for specialty.
- Candidates are ranked based on academic performance, relevant experience, and interview results

# Residency Program Duration

Residency programs in Latvia vary in duration depending on the chosen specialty (**3 to 6 years**):

- Family Medicine: 3 years
- Internal Medicine: 4 years
- Surgical Specialties: 5-6 years
- Highly specialized fields (e.g., neurosurgery, cardiology): 5-6 years
  
- UEMS standards, when possible



# Setting Residency Quotas

- **Ministry of Health** allocates state-funded residency positions each year and supports with funds (salary of residents, funds for the training)
- **Prioritization** based on public health needs (hospital and out-patient clinic requirements, number of available specialists in the country, age groups, *priority for family medicine*)

# Funding options



- **State-Funded (Budget Residents)**
  - Tuition and salary covered by state
  - Limited positions based on national healthcare needs
- **Self-Funded (Paid Residents)**
  - Resident pays tuition
  - State provides salary
  - Limited positions – MofH no objection is needed
- **Health care institution Funded (Fully Sponsored Residents)**
  - Hospital pays tuition and salary
  - No any limitations

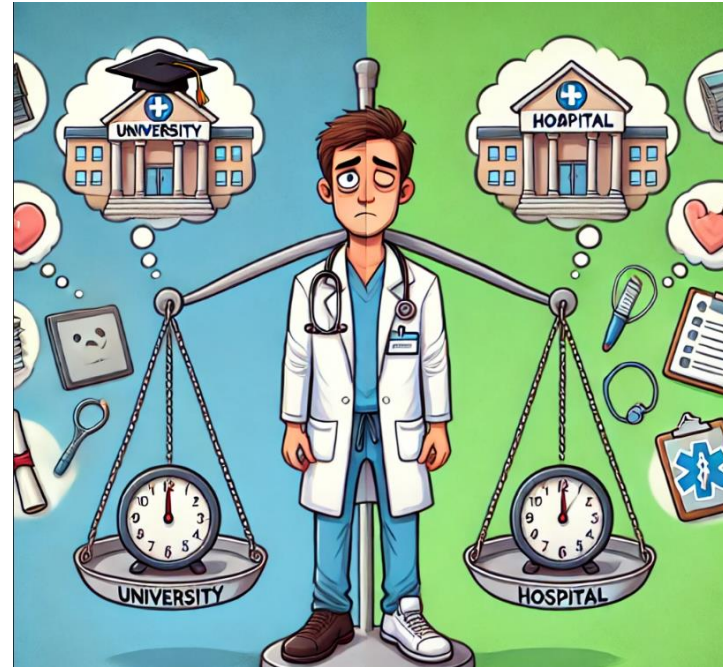
# Resident: employee & student

## University

University program director

Residency director

Resident Council



## Healthcare institution

Residency director

Residency program director

Department head

Setificied doctor

Head doctor

Head nurse

HR

Senior residents

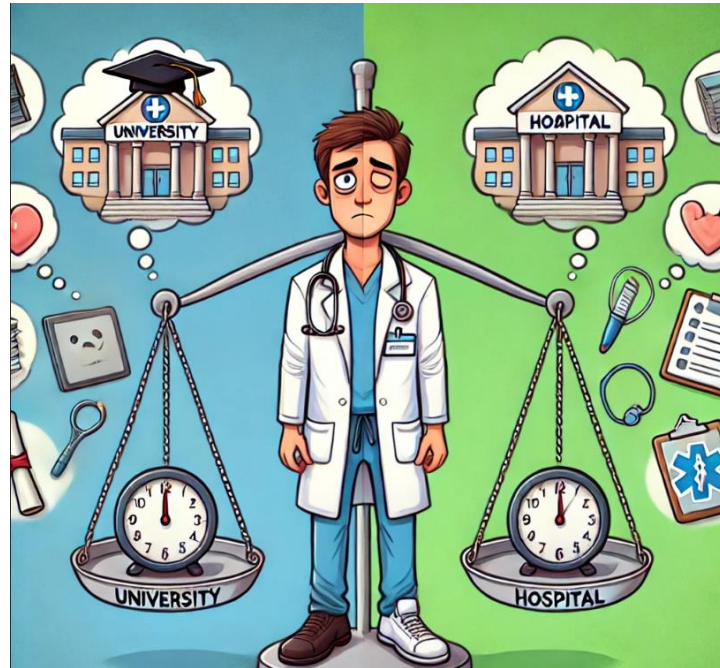
## Patient

## Health Inspection Agency

# Resident: employee or student?

## University

- Formal accreditation of study programm
- Supervises study process
- Provides some training
- Supervises financing
- Have NO legal responsibility towards the patient



## Healthcare institution

- Provides practical training
- Provides theoretical training
- Have full legal responsibility towards the patient

# Resident evaluation

- In accordance with the Cabinet of Ministers' regulations on residency, 1st and 2nd-year residents are allowed to work only **under the direct supervision** of a certified doctor
- At the end of the 2nd year of residency, their theoretical knowledge and professional skills are evaluated during the educational program, which provides the opportunity for these residents to work more independently under the **indirect supervision** of a certified doctor



# Residents Stradins CUH

Total residents: **241**

	<b>RSU</b>	<b>LU</b>	<b>Total</b>
Budget	118	96	214
Self-paid	6	21	27
Total	124	117	<b>241</b>

# Residents Stradins CUH

Each year:

- 70-80 residents from Regional hospitals
- 150 residents from other healthcare institutions are rotating for their study programme (1 week to 6+ months)



## 39 specialties

Allergyst	Gastroenterologist	Cardiology	Neurologist	Therapeutic Radiologist
Algologist	Gynecologist, Obstetrician	Surgeon	Neonatologist	Rheumatologist
Anesthesiology	Family Medicine Physician	Clinical Microbiologist	Ophthalmologist	Sports Medicine Physician
Occupational Health Physician	Hematologist	Laboratory Physician	Oncologist-Chemotherapist	Cardiac Surgeon
Vascular Surgeon	Immunologist	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon	Otorhinolaryngologist	Thoracic Surgeon
Dermatovenerologist	Infectologist	Emergency Medicine Physician	Pathologist	Transplant Surgeon
Endocrinologist	Internist	Nephrologist	Pulmonologist	Urologist
Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Physician	Interventional Radiologist	Neurosurgeon	Radiologist	



**Pulse oximeter and  
Other tools for each resident**



**Team-building events**



**Continuing education  
courses and training**



**Friendly and supportive  
residency team**



**Scientific work**



**Resident campus (available  
24/7)**



**Bi-monthly clinical meetings**



**Resident Council**

***Comming 2025:  
Resident gym***

**“ The Important Thing is to  
Never Stop Questioning.”**

