

INTERREG V – A

COOPERATION PROGRAMME GREECE – BULGARIA 2014-2020

“Policies for Enhancing Access to Health Services in Deprived Areas” –

“The Healthy Municipality”



Model of Greek Health System – Structure for Providing Health Services

OPENING CONFERENCE

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Interreg
Greece-Bulgaria
European Regional Development Fund



Sakis Karamoschos
Agency for Transnational Training and Development

New Primary Health System in Greece - Key Points

Based on Law No 4486 - August 7 – 2017

"Health Prevention and Promotion Programs at Primary Health Care level"

Main Features

- 3 level system
 - Primary
 - Secondary and
 - Tertiary

- Service Providers
 - The State: mainly Health Ministry, Local Government
 - The Insurance System
 - The Private sector

Some basic operation principles (1/10)

Within the new Primary Health Care System (PHC) in Greece:

1. A decentralized structure, the Local Health Unit (ToMY) is being introduced, with the purpose to providing:

- ❑ family medical services
- ❑ organized prevention and
- ❑ health education.

Meaning that the Primary Health Care (PHC) encompasses:

- ❑ prevention,
- ❑ vaccinations,
- ❑ screenings,
- ❑ monitoring of chronic diseases.

Focus, actually, on prevention and monitoring measures

Some basic operation principles (2/10)

- 2. All insured persons should be registered at the family doctor. So, for the first time, preventive examinations are adopted as mandatory for all persons**
- 3. Access to the Secondary Care takes place after the visit to the family doctor of the Local Health Unit**

The Local Health Units are **directly, operationally** and **scientifically** linked with:

- the **local Health Center**, which they constitute decentralized units of and
- the **Hospital of their Reference**

and preferably refer health care recipients for further diagnosis, monitoring, treatment or hospitalization to them.

The center of gravity of the system is being placed onto the primary health level.

Some basic operation principles (3/10)

To doing so:

In each Municipality there is at least one **Health Center** and in each Municipal Unit there is at least one **Local Health Unit** or other public health unit

4. The Health Centers offer more services

Health Centers should provide the following services:

- (a) Specialized ambulatory care (Out-patient and specialized health care services)
- (b) emergency and urgent services,
- (c) laboratory and imaging control,
- (d) dental care for adults and children,

Some basic operation principles (4/10)

- (e) maternal and child care,
- (f) care for children and adolescents,
- (g) specialized prevention,
- (h) physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy,
- (i) occupational medicine,
- (j) social medicine and public health,
- (k) health promotion.

Also, other relevant responsibilities may be added to the Health Centers, depending on the population and the health needs.

Some basic operation principles (5/10)

Health Centers refer patients who need further diagnosis, follow-up, treatment or hospitalization to the Hospital of their Reference or to other Hospitals which they are directly linked with.

Undoubtedly the focus is moved from the expensive and inflexible Hospital to the Health Center

Some basic operation principles (6/10)

5. A Primary Health Care Sector is created

Within that Primary Health Care Sector, the

- Public structures for the provision of primary health services,
- External health service providers contracted with the insurance institution,
- Pharmacies contracted with the insurance institution, and
- Municipal Clinics,

constitute the **Local Network of Primary Health Care.**

Some basic operation principles (7/10)

The

- External health service providers which are contracted with the insurance institution
- Municipal Clinics and
- Pharmacies contracted with the insurance institution,

can take part at initiatives aiming at health promotion and prevention services.

Some basic operation principles (8/10)

In each Primary Health Care Sector a three-member **Management Board** is set up by decision of the Regional Health Governor (of the Health Ministry), composed by:

- (a) the Chairman,
- (b) the Scientific Manager of the Health Center and
- (c) a municipal councilor of the Municipality of the relevant Health Center, proposed by the City Council.

Some basic operation principles (9/10)

- 6. The Personal Digital Health File** is introduced, encompassing the overall medical history of the insured person
- The Family Doctors constantly update this file, which follows the patient at each step
 - The Personal Digital Health File comprises all medical information produced by any Health Service provider
 - The file contains all documents with the data, the assessments and any kind of information on the condition and the clinical evolution of the patient throughout the treatment process
 - The data of the Health File constitute property of the individual. The data are kept in safety, under the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, in accordance with the applicable laws on personal data protection.

Some basic operation principles (10/10)

Access to the data of the Health File have:

- the insured individual
- the family physician and the current treating physician, dentist or other health professional, during his/her hospitalization or a visit to a public or private health service unit, **after the person's (the insured) consent.**

The Health System and the Local Government (1/3)

Legislative Provisions

Law No 3852 “New Architecture of the Local Government and Decentralized Management” - **Kallikratis Program**, 7 June 2010, Article 94 provides that:

Responsibilities of the Primary Health Units, as well as local competencies of the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity, are transferred, by Presidential Decree, to the Municipalities.

The Health System and the Local Government (2/3)

The following responsibilities are added to the ones of the Municipalities:

- Implementing vaccination programs
- Securing compliance of the public and private schools with the hygiene rules
- Implementing public health programs
- Informing the citizens on public health issues
- Organizing specific programs for the protection of the public and the promotion of Public Health in their area
- Implementing programs to combating infectious and parasitic animal diseases.

Rather auxiliary competencies

The Health System and the Local Government (3/3)

Law No 4486 - August 7 – 2017, "Health Prevention and Promotion Programs at Primary Health Care level" Article 25, provides

Any kind of development, organization, implementation and evaluation of programs, actions, activities, interventions and collaborations in the fields of prevention, diagnosis, promotion and protection of health at Primary Health Care level to the general public, to specific vulnerable social groups at national and regional level, **requires the relevant approval and supervision** by the responsible bodies and services of the Ministry of Health, the Directorates of the Health Regions or other Public Health agencies and services.

Definitely predominance of the state services

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Thank You for Your Attention!
