

## **Economic and Legal Basis for the Development of the Market of Medical Services in Uzbekistan**

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### **Abstract**

This article describes the organization of a quality health care system in Uzbekistan that will protect and improve the health of the population, the economic and legal framework for the development of the market of medical services, the goals and objectives of the concept of health care development. The article also argues that creating conditions for the upbringing of a healthy generation is one of the priorities of state policy.

**Keywords:** medical services market, public health, e-health, medical tourism, concept of the development of the health care system, private health care system, public-private partnership



## **Introduction**

One of the priorities of state policy in our country is the creation of a quality health care system that will protect and improve the health of the population, the creation of conditions for the upbringing of a healthy generation.

As a result of the measures taken in our country, the efficiency, quality and convenience of medical services have been improved, the main parameters of the UN Millennium Development Goals have been achieved.

The achievements of our country in the field of health during the years of independence have been positively assessed by the international community. For example, life expectancy increased by 4.6 years, from 69.1 years in 1995 to 73.7 years in 2017.

There are also some problems and shortcomings in the organization of health care that prevent the effective solution of the task of further improving the health care system of citizens.

Lack of comprehensive legal regulation in the field of medicine, prevention of diseases that are likely to cause death and disability, and an excessive number of legal and administrative documents in the field of social protection from them make it possible to ensure the stability of the health system does not give. The lack of regulation of such high-demand areas as transplantology and telemedicine is causing the national health care system to lag behind modern advances in medical science and practice. There are no conditions for the introduction of compulsory health insurance. To date, health care is financed mainly from the state budget.

Barriers to the active involvement of the rapidly growing private health sector in cooperation with public health organizations do not allow for the effective use of additional financial resources for health care.

By addressing the shortcomings listed above, it will be possible to meet the growing demands of the population for the quality of health care, respond quickly to the problems that have accumulated in the field, and achieve positive changes in the field of health care.

Therefore, there is a need to formulate a concept for the development of the health care system in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2019-2025, which provides for the goals, objectives and main directions.

## **Research methodology**

As a research methodology in the development of the medical services used the method of observation by studying the legal and economic materials related to medical services in the country.

## **Analysis and results**

On December 7, 2018, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan PF-5590 "On complex measures to radically improve the health care system of the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted. Based on it, the concept of development of the healthcare system of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2019-2025 has been developed.

The goals of the concept are:

1. Increase life expectancy by preventing disease and, in most cases, premature death and disability, and improving treatment outcomes.

2. Reform the health financing and organization system to ensure equal access to health care, financial protection and equitable distribution of resources.
3. Strengthen the capacity of health authorities to fulfill the tasks of the Concept and improve the quality of medical care provided to the population of the republic, increase the role and responsibility of their leaders.

The tasks of the concept are as follows:

- Ensuring comprehensive legal regulation of the sector through the implementation of international standards and recommendations of the World Health Organization.
- Development of effective interagency cooperation and communication mechanisms in the field of public health, including addressing issues that negatively affect the social and economic determinants of health, development of a healthy and safe environment, water supply and improving sanitation, healthy eating, including healthy eating for infants and children, as well as shaping a healthy lifestyle.
- Strengthen the public health system, including the development of sanitary-epidemiological services, improve the control system of infectious and non-communicable chronic diseases, the introduction and implementation of international health regulations.
- Reform the district health link to ensure the effective integration of primary and secondary health care facilities, strengthen maternal and child health care, specialized and palliative care. improving and developing support.
- Improving the system of financing and organization of health care, strengthening the state-guaranteed amount of free medical care through legislation and the gradual introduction of compulsory health insurance.
- Develop the private health care system, public-private partnerships and medical tourism, create favorable conditions for attracting investment in health care and improve the competitive environment.
- Improving the organizational structure of the health care system, the central office of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan and its territorial authorities with a clear definition of functional responsibilities and areas of responsibility.
- Accreditation of medical and pharmaceutical organizations, as well as the gradual introduction of a system of licensing of medical and pharmaceutical activities.
- Further development of the pharmaceutical industry, harmonization of registration procedures for new drugs and medical devices and medical equipment with international standards, improvement of pricing mechanisms, volumes and types of production of drugs, medical devices and medical equipment expansion, their marking and introduction of tracking systems.
- Effective system of training, retraining and advanced training of medical personnel, development of medical science, including certification (accreditation) of scientific and medical educational institutions according to international standards, modern educational programs, methods and technologies formation on the basis of introduction.
- Widespread introduction of e-health systems, creation of a set of integrated information systems and databases based on common national standards.

The widespread introduction of information and communication technologies and “e-health” in the health sector in Uzbekistan is important. Because in the digital economy, it is impossible to develop the medical field without doing this.

The concept outlines the development of a private health care development strategy that includes:

- Identify promising areas for the development of outpatient and inpatient medical services for non-governmental medical organizations, taking into account the needs of the regions;
- Attracting investments, including foreign investments, in the development of certain areas of medicine that are in high demand;
- Widespread implementation of public-private partnership mechanisms in health care;
- Strengthen the role of non-governmental organizations and public associations in the field of health care, as well as establish a single dispatch service (Call-center) to provide information on the main directions of development of the private health care system.

The concept envisages the introduction of public-private partnerships in the health sector in the following forms:

- provision of land plots on a free basis for permanent use for the construction of buildings of private medical institutions;
- provision of land plots for the construction of facilities of private medical organizations on a free basis, subject to the reconstruction and equipping of existing state medical organizations;
- leasing of existing public medical institutions that are underused or require reconstruction or overhaul (re-equipment);
- allocation of land for construction or reconstruction of buildings, equipment on a concession basis;
- sale of vacant state-owned facilities, including non-functioning state medical institutions at “zero” purchase price in the manner prescribed by law;
- outsourcing of certain functions or services of state medical organizations to business entities, etc.

### **Conclusions and suggestions**

In our opinion, in order to develop the market of medical services in Uzbekistan, to strengthen the economic and legal framework, it is possible to carry out reforms in the following areas:

- Improving the system of financing and organization of health care;
- Gradual introduction of compulsory health insurance;
- Further development of the pharmaceutical industry
- Improving pricing mechanisms;
- Capacity building of health authorities;
- Private health care system, public-private partnership;
- Development of medical tourism;

- Attracting investments in the development of certain areas of medicine that are in high demand, including foreign investment.

In conclusion, the implementation of the goals and objectives of the concept of further development of the health care system in Uzbekistan, improvement of health legislation, improvement of the health financing system, improving the quality and convenience of medical care, health lifestyle support, prevention and control of infectious and non-communicable diseases, improvement of medical care for mothers and children, development of private health care system, public-private partnership and medical tourism, further development of the pharmaceutical industry, development of medical science, development of the medical sector through the widespread introduction of information and communication technologies and “e-health”. To do this, it is necessary to eliminate the problems in the market of medical services in our country and further develop the industry.

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