

GLOBAL
HEALTHCARE
INITIATIVE
for Ukraine



Primary Care as a Key Pillar of our Healthcare Systems

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**Primary health care is the most
efficient and effective way to
achieve health for all.**

**But too often, it is the most under-resourced
part of the health system, with the biggest
gaps in poor and marginalized communities.**



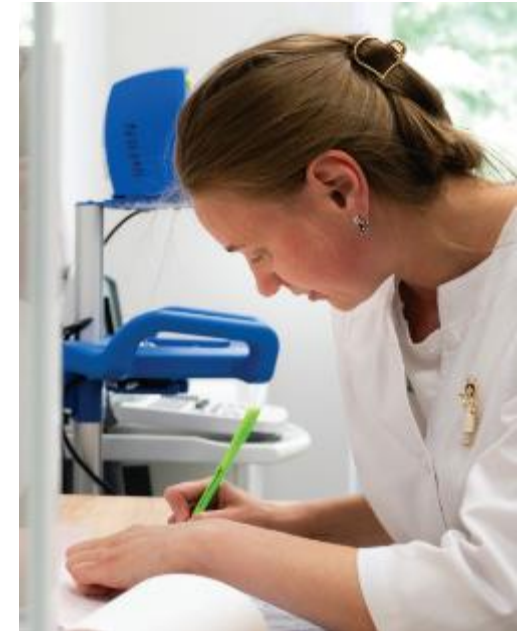
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PRIMARY CARE

What does primary care include?

- Adult and pediatric doctors
- Nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants
- Obstetricians and gynecologists
- Dentists
- *Sometimes also included:*
 - Internists
 - Geriatricians
 - Home care services



PRIMARY CARE

MOST EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

- May address the majority of contacts with the healthcare system for <20% of the costs
- **Contributes to disease prevention**, timely diagnosis and care coordination
- In Central and Eastern European countries, **primary care is still underutilized and under-resourced**
- Primary care **during and after a conflict** is even more critical to help improve **physical and mental health** of the population
- Both **Czech Republic and Ukraine** need to continue in their reforms to **strengthen primary care**



CHALLENGES IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

WORKFORCE, DISPARITIES, COMPETENCES

- **Growing numbers of people with chronic conditions** (65% of people over 65 years; 34% of the population)
- **Suboptimal number of physicians in primary care** (66,5 per 100.000 in CZ vs. 102,8 in Germany and 139,5 in France), **many over 60 years of age** (esp. pediatricians)
- **Regional disparities, insufficient numbers of medical school graduates** entering the field
- **Lack of integration with specialized care**, limited data sharing and lack of disease management (care coordination)
- **Limited delegation of competences to non-physician staff** (incl. nurses, pharmacists, social workers and physiotherapists)



CHALLENGES IN UKRAINE

POORER HEALTH, ACCESS CHALLENGES, SHORTAGES

- **2.254+ attacks on health care facilities** since 2022
- **68% of Ukrainians report a decline in their health** compared to the pre-war period
- **Significant needs in trauma care and rehabilitation** (100 000 amputations performed by mid-2024)
- **25% Ukrainians report a decrease in access** to medical services, **35% financial barriers to medical care**
- **Increased needs by internally displaced persons** (13% lack access to primary care facilities)
- **Shortages of medical supplies and workforce, 55+% Ukrainians experience corruption** in healthcare



WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER

INVESTMENT IN PRIMARY CARE IS WORTH IT

- **Primary care is very most cost-effective**, incl. through **lifestyle interventions, vaccination, screenings** (e.g. for diabetes, high cholesterol, depression, addictions etc.)
- **New models of care are needed**, including delegation of competences to non-physicians (nurses, pharmacists) and new technologies
- **Primary care needs to be connected with social services**, low-threshold treatment programs (substance use treatment), acute, specialist and long-term care for ageing populations
- **Data sharing is key**, including for **early disease detection** and more effective **chronic disease management**



HOW TO STRENGTHEN PRIMARY CARE

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Build new primary care capacity** (support medical and nursing graduates entering the field)
2. **Coordinate across sectors** to reduce population health risks (improve access to safe drinking water, healthy food, clean air), strengthen healthy habits in the younger population
3. **Improve access by reducing financial and other barriers**, incl. for those without a registered primary care provider
4. **Invest in rehabilitation and physiotherapy**, as well as treatment of physical and mental health trauma
5. **Leverage technologies to improve efficiency**, streamline data sharing and improve health literacy



Thank you!

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic

Czechia stands with Ukraine

