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NATIONAL REPORT FROM SLOVENIA

In our country we have been facing the deficit of physicians during the last 10 years. The deficit is especially important in rural hospitals. There are measures taken, but we do not expect positive effects sooner than in eight years. Most important and efficient are the opening of the new Medical faculty at The University in Maribor and management of medical specialisations by the medical Chamber of Slovenia.

We are in the middle of the »health programme financing reform« with implementation of DRG system in hospitals, fee for service in out-patient medical specialits' care and a combination of capitation and fee for service in primary health care.

Three years ago we have started a project on free medical specialists in public hospitals. Implementation of pilot groups in three hospitals is starting this year.

We have huge problems with implementation of WT Directive that is at least for next five years inimplementable in our country.

Waiting times for elective surgery, radilological diagnostic procedures (CT, NMR, PET), accesibility to radiotherapy and new inovative chemotherapy are major problems in our hospitals with some signs of positive health policy measures for improvements.

After several years with negative financial results of social health insurance this year shall end with surplus so we hope that this would mean also the beginning a good starting point of improvement of the health sector as a whole.