



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN
DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΑΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE MÉDICOS DE HOSPITALES
EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN
EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVNIKOV
EUROPSKA ASOCIACIA NEMOCNICNÝCH LEKAROV
EUROPSKA UDRUGA BOLNIČKIHI LIJEČNIKA
ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΑ ΑΣΟCΙΑCΙΑ ΝΑ ΣΤΑΡΣΗΤΕ ΒΟΛΝΗCΗΝΗ ΛΕΚΑΡΗ**

Document :	AEMH 09-050
Title:	National Report Greece
Author :	AEMH European Secretariat
Purpose :	Information
Distribution :	AEMH Member Delegations
Date :	11 May 2009



Ε Λ Λ Η Ν Ι Κ Η Δ Η Μ Ο Κ Ρ Α Τ Ι Α

National Report Greece 2009

Author Dr Konstantinos Gerolymatos

During the last year, after longtime negotiations there was an agreement between Health Ministry and the medical trade unions resulting in a new law.

I) **Arrangements concerning the work duties:**

- ▣ 24 hours time off for every hospital physician after each overnight shift(work duty during the weekend is not included).
- ▣ The remuneration for the work duty for every resident (trainee) and specialist doctor is taxed with a special tax factor.
- ▣ The financial benefit of hospital physician for library visits is no longer under any taxation.

II) **Arrangements concerning the reformation of the public hospital services:**

- 1) Entry and evolution of the physicians in the national system of public hospitals
 - ▣ The evolution in the hierarchy begins with the grade of Supervisor B' and goes up to the grade of Head of the Department and is determined after taking into consideration the previous working experience, the educational and the scientific qualification of the doctor applying for the job.
 - ▣ All vacancies have to be announced within the range of one month.
 - ▣ The hierarchy grades for the specialists are: Supervisor B', Supervisor A' and Head of the Department. The title of Assistant Head of the Department no longer exists. Introduction of the title of Coordinator Head of the Department (in cases of departments in which there are more than one Head Doctors).
 - ▣ Introduction of the Elective Bodies: The Council for engagement-evaluation, the Council for the election of the Head of the Departments, the Council for the evaluation of the applying physicians and the Council for the election of the Coordinator Heads of the Departments.

- III) **Hiring new doctors:** by the end of 2009, the Ministry of Health will hire 2000 physicians (1500 specialists and 500 residents). The main priority is given to the peripheral hospital units which are deficient in scientific crew, by reorganizing the healthcare map of the country. The goal to be accomplished is to reach the lower limit of 7 overnight shifts per month per physician by the 1st of July 2009.
- IV) Renewal of the fees agreement between physicians and the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Economics.
- IV) Finally, the Ministry of Health announced the engagement of 5500 nurses, which are going to be allocated to the departments and hospital that are more in need of human staff.

All the above measures are of great importance for the physicians and for the improvement of the quality of the public health services. Nevertheless, it is crucial to underline that a great deal of problems which torment the National Health System for years still remain unsolved.

The Ministry of Health should focus for the years to come in contracting more doctors and nurses, introducing more sophisticated technologies in hospital equipment, organizing more efficiently the first degree health centers, improving the accessibility of health services, reinforcing of the National Insurance System and motivate new physicians (economically and scientifically) to work in smaller health units, away from the big city centers.

It is obvious that establishing an efficient health care system would demand important financial resources, which are difficult to be provided, today more than ever, taking under consideration the worldwide economical crisis.

To these problems we must add the continuous replacement of the Health Minister the last years, and the absence of a well defined consensus for the National Health on behalf of Greek Governments in collaboration with the entire political body, the Panhellenic Medical Association and the medical trade unions of the country.