



UKRAINE



Continuing conflict and political instability have proven to be the greatest barrier to reform implementation in Ukraine as it embarks on a major reorganisation of its health system driven by an ambitious five-year strategy.



NATIONAL HEALTH REFORM STRATEGY FOR UKRAINE, 2015-2020

45 004 645 TOTAL POPULATION, (2016)	71 YEARS LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH, (2015)	584\$ TOTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE PER CAPITA, (2014)	75% TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT COVERAGE, (2016)
46% OUT OF POCKET EXPENDITURE AS % OF TOTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE, (2014)	11% GENERAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH EXPENDITURE AS % OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE, (2014)	1% EXTERNAL AID AS % OF TOTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE, (2014)	87% ANTENATAL CARE COVERAGE, (2012)
87 HOSPITAL BEDS PER 10 000 POPULATION, (2009)	93% RURAL POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED SANITATION FACILITIES, (2015)	19% DTP3 IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE AMONG 1-YEAR-OLDS, (2016)	100% BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL, (2014)

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SOURCE: WHO GHO & WB

CURRENT PRIORITIES

Ukraine has an extensive health care infrastructure. Since the country gained independence in 1991, successive governments have struggled to overcome funding shortfalls and modernize the health care system to meet the population's health needs. Beginning in 2010, a health reform programme sought to strengthen primary and emergency care, rationalize hospitals and change the model of health care financing. Ukraine then launched a five-year national health reform strategy aimed at developing a health system that is people-centred, outcomes-oriented and implementation-focused.

Recently however, the focus has been on more pressing humanitarian concerns as more than 1.6 million people have been displaced. Access to primary, secondary and emergency health-care services and medicines has been severely disrupted with resources in conflict-affected areas severely stretched. Of those affected, 3.8 million are currently in need of health services.

LINKAGE TO UHC

Ukraine's National Health Reform Strategy 2015-2020 aims to revitalize the process of reforms and lay a clear path towards Universal Health Coverage. Included in the key guiding principles are: a guaranteed package of services available to all; national standards of excellence and professionalism; patient empowerment; collaboration across organisational boundaries; and value for money and accountability to the public, communities and patients.

Ukraine's Health Financing Concept, the basis for the new law on health financing adopted by Parliament, aims to reduce high out-of-pocket expenditure and offers practical steps for reform of the national healthcare system as a whole. A government-guaranteed healthcare benefit (GGBP) package is on the table for consideration. This new up-to-date model of healthcare financing is envisaged for national roll-out from 2018, entailing clear government guarantees for healthcare, a better financial protection for individuals in case of a disease, efficient and fair allocation of public resources and reduction of out-of-pocket payments.

WHO SUPPORT TO DATE

- Supported development of the Health Financing Concept, including creation of a national body for strategic purchasing of health care services and development of GGP package
- Provision of international expertise to review the Public Health Concept, contribute to its political discussion, and guide its implementation
- Supported continuous development of national agency on medication, drug procurement policies and positive list of medicines
- Provision of international expertise in primary health care reform to increase access to equitable high-quality care in a health system responsive to people's needs

Remaining gap: Strengthen primary health care

↳ **Recommendation: Hospital network reform; team-based service provision modalities.**

Remaining gap: Social and regional inequity in access to healthcare workforce

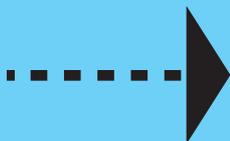
↳ **Recommendation : Organisation of service delivery, administrative procedures and professional quality to be improved.**

Remaining gap: Integrated people centred approach to health services

↳ **Recommendation : Strengthening Governance of local health service delivery .**

Stories from the field:

Mobile clinics take services to the people



To address the needs of the population affected by the conflict, WHO has established mobile emergency primary health units (MEPUs) in 6 regions in eastern Ukraine. Mobile clinics visit conflict lines, where the security situation remains tenuous and existing health facilities have been destroyed or do not function anymore. For many internally displaced people, mobile clinics are their only source of health care.

The mobile teams consist of a nurse, doctor and driver, who collect vital data and offer services for nutrition, infectious disease, NCDs, maternal, newborn and child health, mental health and hygiene. The units are supported by many international donors, including the UK.

"We supported WHO and its partners to provide mobile outreach clinics to the most isolated communities in conflict-affected areas. The approach has proven to be very effective and has had huge buy-in from the local health authorities," says Fergus Thomas, Humanitarian Advisor to the British Embassy in Ukraine.



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