



Fund “Nauka” Project № 18008 Resume – Competition-Based Session 2018:

“Health system assessment in Bulgaria: effectiveness, equity and sustainability”

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The research goal of the project is to develop and validate a conceptual model of healthcare system performance assessment framework, including a set of criteria and indicators for assessment.

The project’s objectives go into two directions: research-related and practice-related.

Research objectives:

1. To investigate the currently existing concepts, approaches and models of healthcare system assessment and of the concepts of effectiveness, equity, and sustainability in healthcare;
2. To develop a set of criteria and indicators for assessment and a methodology for the implementation of that assessment;
3. To assess the state and functioning of the Bulgarian healthcare system.

Practice-related objectives:

4. To generate new information and complement existing data on the state of the Bulgarian healthcare system;
5. To establish a basis for recurring comparative assessments;
6. To formulate recommendations for the future development of healthcare policies.

The research goals and objectives will be accomplished using qualitative and quantitative methods from the social and health sciences.

The methods involve systematic review and analysis of research publications, a sociological study of the opinions of healthcare system participants, a descriptive health policy analysis, statistical analysis and other methods.

The outcomes of the project involve the generation of new and the further development of existing knowledge about healthcare system assessment (a validated framework for healthcare system assessment and methodology, and assessed current state of the Bulgarian healthcare system and the social perceptions of it) and benefits with regard to the solutions of important social issues (a proposed set of approaches and measures for the improvement of the effectiveness, sustainability, and equity in healthcare in Bulgaria).

Obtained results:

1. A conceptual model and a system of indicators for health system performance assessment have been developed;
2. A methodology and an algorithm for conducting a health system performance assessment have been developed, which ensure comparability in temporal aspect and tracking of progress in the implementation of health policy objectives;
3. Assessment of the current state of the health system in Bulgaria;
4. Assessment of the social attitudes of the population and professional opinion and evaluation of health professionals towards the health system;

Formulated recommendations to increase efficiency, reduce inequalities, and ensure resilience in the development of the Bulgarian health system.