



Fund “Nauka” Project № 20007 Resume – Competition-Based Session 2020:

“Migration of health professionals – challenges and perspectives for the health system in Bulgaria”

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The aim of the project is to study the migration of health professionals in Bulgaria, defining recommendations for stimulating circular migration. This will provide evidential basis for developing health policy in the field of human resources.

For achieving the scientific goal, several research **tasks** have been set:

1. Analyzing scientific research on the topic;
2. Studying good practices at European and international level;
3. Analyzing the factors and effects of circular migration;
4. Investigating migration attitudes among health professionals and potential motives for participation in circular mobility;
5. Summarizing conclusions and recommendations for development of the health policy.

Qualitative and quantitative **methods** in the field of social, economic and health sciences will be used to achieve the research goals and tasks. These include:

1. Systematic analysis of scientific publications;
2. Descriptive health policy analysis, comparative analysis and evaluation of international and national initiatives, policies and practices;
3. Sociological methods;
4. Quantitative methods.

The main results are related to:

1. Synthesis of the factors and prerequisites for migration and the possibilities for their transformation into motives for circular mobility;
2. Analysis of the circular migration potential to limit the negative and strengthen the positive consequences for the health system;
3. Development of methodological tool;
4. Formulation of conclusions and recommendations to the human resources policy.

The results are the basis a PhD thesis and scientific publications on the topic.

The following research results are achieved:

1. Systematized and analyzed scientific publications and reports on migration of health professionals;
2. Identified good practices promoting circular migration at the European and international level;
3. Summarized quantitative data on the migration of health professionals in Bulgaria and on circular migration at European and international level;
4. Developed and tested research instruments (questionnaires for cross-sectional survey and in-depth interview);
5. Collected and analyzed data from the survey and in-depth interviews;
6. Identified factors and determinants influencing health professionals' migration, as well as the motives for participation in circular migration; hypothesis testing;
7. Summarized evidences for health policy development that promotes circularity and mitigates the negative effects of the permanent migration of health professionals in Bulgaria.