

Project of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on Improving the Comparability and Availability of Private Health Expenditure

At the invitation of Mr. John Martin, Director, Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) sent to the NSI President, Bulgaria was one of the six countries, selected by OECD to participate in the project on Improving the Comparability and Availability of Private Health Expenditure, financed by EC and implemented by OECD.

The project activities were implemented within the period January – July 2009.

The objective of the project is the preparation of a thematic survey (report) on data sources and estimation methods of private health expenditure.

The following activities were finalized:

1. Description of the institutional arrangements for the financing of health care with an emphasis on private health financing.
2. Taking into account the already provided data for the OECD document "Summary of country data sources and methods", more detailed information was provided about the data sources and estimation methods used to compile private health expenditure data, worked out within the frames of the joint data collection procedure of Eurostat, OECD and the World Health Organization.

This section of the report includes:

- Details of the data sources used for each financing agent in the ICHA HF.2 classification.
 - Details of the estimation methods used.
 - The methods used for reconciling data from providers and functions with funding sources.
 - The methods used to report the private health expenditure data within the SHA boundaries.
 - Information about using data from the household surveys.
 - Details on the differences between data from the household budget surveys and data on households' final consumption expenditure, reported in National accounts.
 - Details on areas where data collection is problematic e.g. non-profit institutions serving households or occupational health.
3. Comments on the draft guidelines for Improving the Comparability and Availability of Private Health Expenditure, provided by OECD.

The six countries invited by OECD to take part in the project, made presentations at the seminar held in Paris on the basis of their project reports. A discussion was held on the different methodological approaches, applied by the countries in compiling private health expenditure data.