

National Report: Republic of Macedonia

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1. Violence against physicians:

- *Situation of violence against physicians in Macedonia:* Number of cases of violence against the doctors in our country is increasing
- *Legal basics to protect physicians* and for future prevention of violence against the doctors with certain modification and extension of the existing Law for health protection brought in 2015. The given law envisages the doctors as officials who perform duties on basis of previous authorization proposed with the law itself. This further entitles them with higher level of protection while their medical practice since the practice has a status of professional task based on the law. Accordingly, they have the right to protection and respect of their physical and intellectual integrity, protection and respect of their entity and dignity as well as the right to safety while performing medical practice and giving health services as part of their professional tasks. Any assault of a doctor while medical practice and providing health services is qualified as assault over an official.

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1. Violence against physicians:

- *Reaction of Chamber on this issue:*
- The Doctor's Chamber of Macedonia requires the each individual case should be investigated separately with adequate sanctions for the offenders that physically or verbally assault doctors or other medical personnel. We require implementation of the latest legislative against the offenders in the legal procedures that states that any act of violence over a medical worker is assault against an official. Furthermore, the Doctor's Chamber of Macedonia insists on higher level of protection in the healthcare institutions.

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1. Violence against physicians:

- The Doctor's Chamber of Macedonia has a very clear stand regarding the violence against the doctors and it is that it mustn't be tolerated and that it is absurd that in the 21st century violence in healthcare institutions it is something we should even discuss. It is impermissible that the healthcare workers, the very providers of medical services, fear for their lives and for their safety. The Doctor's Chamber also clearly states that the above concerns also other patients and that the violence should not be justified in any case. We believe that the doctors and the patients aim for the same goal and that in order to be reached the both should act in accordance with the elementary rules of humanity, dignity and respect.

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2. Specializations:

- *Is it possible under your national regulations for medical doctors to achieve and practice independently certain competences which are not included within their belonging specialty curriculum as competence level 3 (independent practice) or which are not included within their belonging specialty curriculum at all? If yes, how is it regulated? (i.e. gastroenterologist wants to perform heart ultrasound or maxillofacial surgeon and breast implants)*
- According our legislative, the doctors cannot practice certain competencies that haven't been included in the teaching program for specialist studies.

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3. Licensing and CME:

- *How is the regulation on CME in your country? Who is responsible for the control of CME events? Do you know if there is any EU project for recognition of doctors' licenses for the Balkan countries?*
- Legal basis for regulation of the continuous medical education has been given in the Law on Health Protection as well as in the Law on Medical Studies, and this is further regulated with the by-laws of the Doctor's Chamber.

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3. Licensing and CME:

- *How is the regulation on CME in your country? Who is responsible for the control of CME events? Do you know if there is any EU project for recognition of doctors' licenses for the Balkan countries?*
- The Doctor's Chamber of Macedonia is responsible for the control over the activities regarding the continuous medical education since the Chamber is responsible for the accreditation of the activities organized by the associations, the healthcare institutions and the Ministry of Health.
- We have no information of a project in the European Union referring the nostrification of the doctor's working licenses regarding the countries from the Balkans.

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4. Treatment protocols:

In some countries of the ZEVA region discussions on treatment protocols affect also the work of the chambers. Is this an issue in your country:

- Are there any treatment protocols in your country or not? Protocols for treatment do exist in our country – Manuals for evidence-based medicine practice.
- Who defines those treatment protocols? What rules apply when writing a protocol (based on which documents the protocols are compiled)? Are they mandatory?
- The protocols are defined by the Ministry of Health and they rely on the evidence-based medicine.

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4. Treatment protocols:

In some countries of the ZEVA region discussions on treatment protocols affect also the work of the chambers. Is this an issue in your country:

- Are they mandatory? Yes, the protocols are obligatory.
- Do you define the standards and norms for physicians, the consumption of supplies, etc. based on these protocols? We have no available information regarding this.
- Is there an issued deadline / conditions when the treatment protocols are changed? No, there is no such deadline.



