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The importance of financing the health sector. Romania in the European context

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- Financing the health sector in the EU.
- Funding modalities
- The effects of underfunding health services



- The health status of the population has always been influenced by the economic status of the state and has in turn influenced the economy.

Financing the health sector in the EU.

- The economic situation often determines the level of funding for health services, which is reflected in the efficiency of health institutions and thus the health status of the population.

- Compared to the EU average, Romania lags far behind. Thus, in 2016, Romania allocated 5% to health, compared to the EU average of 8.3%; in 2017, the EU average allocated to this sector was 9.6%, while Romania allocated only 5.2%.

Funding modalities

- Funding from the state budget
- Financing through social health insurance
- Financing through private health insurance
- Financing through direct payments
- Community funding

- Final results
  - Balanced health
  - Universal access
  - Financial risk protection
  - Fairness
  - Clarity
  - Patient satisfaction

Conclusions

- The factors that lead to underfunding of health services are the same factors that lead to overburdened health services.
- Thus, the precarious state of the economy which results in a low percentage of GDP allocated to the health sector will be perpetuated, due to the fact that the health status of the population, together with the labour force, will be reduced; at the same time, the need for free and/or compensated medicines will increase, as well as the cases of retirement for health reasons.

- Health is important for the well-being of individuals and society, but a healthy population is also a prerequisite for high economic productivity and prosperity.
- Thus, spending on health is not just a cost but an investment. Spending on health can be seen as an economic burden, but society's direct costs for health services can be lower than the indirect costs, which are driven by the population's high rate of illness.

Thank you for your attention!