Innovative and Challenging

Introduction of home care services in Bulgaria – a chance for transformation of the primary health care system

Dr. Nadezhda Todorovska
Bulgarian Red Cross

www.redcross.bg
www.home-care.bg
Problem definition

• Hospital-oriented health system;

• A rise in chronic morbidities, comorbidities and disabilities;

• Population ageing and unmet care needs;

• Insufficient work force in the health and social spheres;

• Lack of integrated medico-social services in the community.
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Home Care Services – innovative solutions

- Shifting towards more outpatient and ambulatory care
- Redesign of health and social systems
- Reorienting the health workforce
- Reforming funding models
- Innovating and incorporating new technologies
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Transformation of care delivery through the initiative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selecting services</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home care services not available.</td>
<td>Home care services have been established; nurses provide a range of primary care services &amp; home helpers provide social support</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designing care pathways</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No guidelines or protocols for delivery of home care exist.</td>
<td>Quality criteria for services delivery developed based on international models and early operational experience</td>
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<th>Organizing providers</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No actors in home care; nurses are prohibited from practising autonomously and must be supervised by physicians.</td>
<td>Home care centres employ nurses and home helpers to deliver care in patients’ homes; nurses work autonomously and supervise home-helpers.</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Regulating services</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No regulation of home care services</td>
<td>First legal regulation of home care services achieved in 2015; home cares are included as a priority measure in national level policy acts in the health and social spheres</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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The way forward

• Finalization of the regulatory framework;

• Cost-pricing and cost-effectiveness analysis;

• Design of appropriate funding models;

• Spreading of the model at national level.

Thank you for your attention!

n.todorovska@redcross.bg