



National Healthcare System



National Healthcare

- System: compulsory health insurance (SHI) system with a single public insurer Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia (ZZZS)
- Funding: primarily from SHI contributions: by employers and employees, with complementary and additional insurance
- Coverage: nearly universal coverage; since 1st January 2024 complementary became compulsory (€35)

Key Stakeholders



- Ministry of Health: Health policy and legislation
- National institute of public health of Slovenia: central public health institution
- Agency for medical products and medical devices of Republic of Slovenia: Medical product / device regulation
- National laboratory for health, environment and food: public health labs and monitoring
- Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia : insurance and reimbursement policies
- Municipalities: founder and management of primary healthcare

Funding & Budget Allocation



- Total R&D budget €4584 million, of which €49 million for healthcare (in 2024)
- EU Recovery & Resilience plan 21-27: 9% of total framework (€225 million) for healthcare, of which €10-12 million directly for digital healthcare projects
- EU Cohesion Policy 21-27: €103 million for healthcare, of which 20% for digitalisation
- Key innovation actors: ARIS, SPIRIT Slovenia, SPS

Care Delivery & Procurement



- Mixed procurement model:
 - Centralized for large tenders/equipment, managed by ZZZS
 - Decentralized for small purchases of supplies/ devices, managed by healthcare provider
- Procurement principles: no preferences for local over foreign suppliers; price remains the key determining factor in public procurement
- Growing digital health market: rapid expansion in telemedicine, wearables, and personalized care

Digital Health Infrastructure



- Central Registry of Patient Data (CRPD) - core system of Slovenia's eHealth; all providers submit records, patients access via zVEM portal/app
- eZVEM portal - patient "one-stop-shop" for referrals, appointments, dispensations, health records and COVID certificates (ePrescriptions, eAppointment & eReferral, etc...)

Reimbursement for Digital Services



- Telemedicine: partially reimbursed if it meets ZZZS coding, contract, and quality conditions
- Digital therapeutics: no reimbursement framework yet

Challenges & Priorities



Issues:

- Primary healthcare – limited access and uneven focus on prevention
- Digitalisation – slow uptake of digital tools and system inefficiencies
- Workforce – shortages and lack of long-term HR strategy
- Quality & safety – variability in care standards and patient safety.

National priorities:

- System reforms - structural reform of ZZZS, comprehensive reform of healthcare financing and central public procurement, ...
- Workforce & pay - addressing challenges in family and emergency medicine, regulation of absenteeism, reform of the public employees' pay system,...
- Digitalisation of healthcare
- VBHC Guidelines