

Concept Note

Project Title: Health at Home

Name of Implementing Organization: Ministry of Health of Montenegro – Directorate for IPA and other project and health infrastructure

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Project Description:

What is the problem that this proposed project seeks to address?

In all healthcare systems, it is assumed that the treatment of the most severe illnesses is conducted under controlled conditions and constant supervision of physicians and medical staff within hospitals. Treatment in hospitals can be stressful for both patients and their closest relatives who are constantly with the patient during treatment. However, in some healthcare systems, especially for certain diagnoses and particularly in the treatment of chronic non-communicable diseases, there are opportunities for treatment to be conducted at home under the supervision of physicians and medical staff, as well as the care of family members. The goal is to implement such a treatment system through a pilot project in the cross-border region and examine its application in our healthcare systems.

What are the goals of the project, and the activities that will be implemented toward those goals?

Supporting healthcare services for vulnerable groups (the elderly, children, especially those dependent on parental care), as well as individuals with disabilities, through investment in equipment and transportation means that would enable the transition from institutional care to care provided through family and community.

Activities:

- Needs assessment: Assess the needs of chronic patients in both countries and identify key areas where the provision of home healthcare services can be improved.
- Equipment procurement: Procure specialized mobile medical equipment required for treating chronic patients at home. Equipment may include pulse oximeters, blood pressure monitors, respirators, infusion pumps, oxygen concentrators, and other equipment as needed.
- Training of medical staff: Train medical staff responsible for providing home healthcare services. This includes training on handling and maintaining medical equipment, patient care techniques at home, and preparation for emergency situations.
- Training of families and patients: Provide education to families and patients on home care, prevention of complications, safe handling of medical equipment, nutrition, and other aspects of patient care.
- Quality assessment of services: Regularly assess the quality of home healthcare services and conduct patient satisfaction surveys to identify potential areas for improvement.

Legal basis of the proposed project (laws and other legal regulations, EU regulations, strategic documents,etc.)

The Law on Health care protection (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 3/2016, 39/2016, 2/2017, 44/2018, 24/2019, 82/2020, 8/2021, 3/2023

Article 4

A citizen of Montenegro has the right to healthcare in accordance with the highest possible health standards and achievements of modern medical theory and practice.

Healthcare Development Strategy in Montenegro for the period 2023-2027 - The strategy aims to improve the accessibility and quality of healthcare services, which aligns with the goal of the project to provide support for healthcare services for vulnerable groups. Additionally, the strategy emphasizes the need to enhance home care as an alternative form of treatment, which coincides with the core idea of the "Health at Home" project to enable healthcare delivery in home settings. Furthermore, providing counseling and patient monitoring by selected physicians or teams of doctors, which is also part of the "Health at Home" project, contributes to achieving the goals of the healthcare strategy in Montenegro. These activities enable more efficient use of healthcare resources and improve access to healthcare services, aligning with the objectives defined in the strategy.

What is the expected impact of the project?

This project is expected to enable the provision of healthcare in home settings, improving the quality of life for vulnerable groups and facilitating access to healthcare services. Additionally, the project will contribute to more efficient utilization of healthcare resources and enhance the system for monitoring and supporting patients.

How will this project be monitored and evaluated?

The project will be overseen by the Ministry of Health with the support of health centers in Montenegro in the program area. Within the Ministry of Health, there is a structured organizational unit - a directorate tasked with implementing both national and cross-border IPA projects.

Project Staff

Please outline the qualifications and experience of your organization and the project team as they are related to your project plan and goals.

The Ministry of Health has experience with the implementation of cross-border projects, but also experience in the implementation of the national IPA.

At the first call, we successfully implemented the NeurNet project (<https://www.interreg-hr-ba-me.eu/project/neurnet/>) with partners from Croatia (Institute for Emergency Medicine (previously Institute for Telemedicine) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (Federal Ministry of Health).

Apart from this project, we were also involved in the AdriHealthMob project (<https://innopolis.org/projects/adrihealthmob/>) , which was part of the IPA Adriatic Program where we collaborated with the Croatian Ministry of Health.

Additionally, we were involved in the PHASE Project ([Home | PHASE \(italy-albania-montenegro.eu\)](#)) which was a part of the Interreg IPA Italy-Albania-Montenegro.