

The regional set up of the health services. The new regulations concerning the completed regional establishments

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In a global economy, with no frontiers on the capital of labour, poverty or illness, we are called to provide sufficient «tools» and modern policies, especially in the civil sector. In a world that everything changes rapidly, from the way we live and the technology we use to our epidemic pattern and our expectations, we are not allowed to stay inactive, focusing only on old-fashioned conceptions and practices. In a society that is constantly developing and changing, making new and daily increasing needs for health, we are responsible to modernize and adjust our health system.

The establishment of the National Health System (ΕΣΥ), has made a big step in order to conense a big space in health care.

By establishing N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ), our country, later than any other West European countries, came into a scheduled procedure to develop its health system/establishments.

However, despite the significant quantitative and qualitative development of our health system, it still shows negative functions. The problems, year by year, are multiplied and becoming more serious.

These problems are mainly about:

- The lack of organisation in running the hospitals.
- Low effectiveness.
- The unevenness of quality of the given services, not only between the headquarters and the regional (decentralized) units but even within the limits of these regional units.
- The excessive number of practicing doctors.
- The rapid and uncontrolled development and operation of the private health sector, is taking advantage of the weaknesses of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ) and the absence of an institutional framework that will rule the operation of the establishment by devising methods for controlling it.
- The fixed concepts, behaviours and practices.

The direct consequences of all these problems are not only restricted to the great waste of valuable sanitary sources, but, they also distress the patient and create an atmosphere of disbelief and insecurity to the citizen. Moreover, they cancel in practice basic principles of ΕΣΥ, as the impartial, catholic, and equally privileged care. Recently, the Ministry of Health

and Social Care passed on a bill, which attempts to secure the fundamental basic principles of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ).

Thus an intervention is imperative in order to bring about the changes needed that will..... This bill attempts on one hand to secure the social character' of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ) and on the other hand to make citizens feel secure and confident for the health service.

Another attempt is also made to correspond to the real needs of the health system on a regional basis. Thus, for this reason, the health system needs to become more flexible and decentralized in order to make rules that will serve specific targets and policies. This bill is the first reform in the field of health and it will be completed with regulative regulations, which are concerned with social care, Development and Organization of the Public first rank Social Care and the unified financing and effective management of sources, the supplies of hospitals and health centers, the organization and function of the private sector, the training of the doctors as well as the Body of Inspectors for health services and social care.

The Bill includes regulations that are concerned with the Regional set up of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ) the Organization of hospitals and the development of Human Resources.

I. The regional set up of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ) is of maximum importance to the National Health Service.

Decentralized management is proven to be the most effective model of management in all European countries.

Only by decentralization we will be able to solve the problems that have been annoying us for years. The Ministry has to play the vital role so as every Minister won't have to deal with everyday problems.

The regional set up of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ) is becoming a reality with the set up of a complete local Health System per region. That allows:

- Flexible and effective management with targets and inspections.

- The completed print of epidemical data and the real needs for health of the population.

In this way problems that arise due to today's odd situation can be confronted, especially in geographic and socially unified regions a lot of inequalities on the level and the quality of health services are observed.

- *The elaboration with accuracy and validity of a hygiene map that will take part as an important instrument for the materialization of the reform and the key for the practice of national public health.*

- The best possible design and completion of the health services on a regional level.

The managerial council of the regional Health system,, will be responsible for scheduling the hiring of staff, supplying material and technical equipment, co-ordinate, instruct and inspect all its decentralized units, as to check whether they are meeting the needs of the local population.

Moreover, it sets up and supervises the implementation of educational programs, which aim to the continuous scientific development of the staff. The Council of the Regional Health System can constitute.... State businesses, following the successful models of municipal businesses, for the *take over of common supportive functions at the hospitals in order to secure flexibility, speed, save resources and effectiveness.*

The B. of D. of the Reg. H.S. for the completion of its role, is supported by an administrator's body with modern structure and scientific members as the Scientific Council

and the Nursing Council. The Nursing Council is of particular importance, as it aims to upgrade the nursing staff and its role within the health system.

II. The organisation of hospitals, as decentralised and independent units of Reg. H.S. with administrative and financial independence, aim to make easier their full accession into a complete regional health system without having to fear the labour regime that exists there. Hospitals keep their...,rank organic positions, individual budget and administrative staff. They are supervised by the Ministry of Health and Social Care and the General Secretary of the local region.

In hospitals they are introduced collaborating administrative and scientific bodies as well as new management structures. With the new managerial bodies, the Manager, the Management Council, and the Scientific council, hospitals gain flexibility and responsibility over management. The Manager has many responsibilities. In the Managerial Council the heads of the hospital services take part in order to ensure that the rationalistic function of the hospitals is kept. The hospital services are re-structured and they gain a clear hierarchical management structure. New departments and services are scheduled in order to promote continuous education, career grounding and research.

The new form of hospitals' administration allows the introduction of modern management systems, with the development of computer systems, the completion of a unified... accounting systems that secures effective administration and management, the right management of sources and the possibility for continuous quality and quantity inspections on its work from the scientific and administrative staff.

III. The Development of Work force has to be the priority of the people in charge in the field of health, as well as in other areas within the civil sector. New working relations are established for the doctors of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ) and the academic doctors. In this way a reason of conflict in hospitals is lifted/stopped and the academic doctors, as the main sources of renewal of scientific knowledge, are called to offer their services in the public health system, where they belong.

With the afternoon opening hours of the hospitals the opportunity is given to doctors to increase their salary in a legal way and to hospitals to make use of their high quality and expensive equipment and make them more useful and productive. On the other hand, the Greek patient gains access to the proven of high quality health service of the civil sector, while at the same time he is free to choose his/her doctor.

A new inspection model for the doctors of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ) is introduced as far as their scientific knowledge and their ability to keep up date with new developments in their demanding field goes and to secure the highest possible quality of the scientific staff of N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ).

The reform in the health system will be undertaken on the aforementioned basis. It is a very difficult thing to do because neither the civil management nor the public establishments of our country like N.H.S. (ΕΣΥ), can accept and integrate so many changes.

It needs a methodical and organized effort in many aspects and levels of the system, as well as laborious and well-disciplined acts.

Big changes need time to be completed and they should have their own..., to make them socially acceptable and self defensive from the well established forces of inactivity, that are a big threat to them.