

# The use of monitoring systems to better regulate drug consumption in Hungarian hospitals

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Due to the global economic crisis, cost reduction is in the focus in Hungary as well. This is even true in the hospital sector. Guided by this principle the Hungarian Government changed the ownership structure (i.e., the state will be the only owner instead of heterogeneous ownership structure), and started to centralize the procurement of pharmaceuticals and medical equipments at state-owned hospitals too. To an effective, well-functioning tendering system it is necessary to have a precise, detailed monitoring system.

## HUNGARIAN INPATIENT CARE

CHARACTERISTICS	PROBLEMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly financed health care system</li> <li>Single purchaser: Hungarian National Health Insurance Fund Administration (OEP)</li> <li>DRG based financing structure</li> <li>Performance volume limit, to control the hospital budget</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hospitals have huge amount of debts</li> <li>IT system is outdated, lack of available data sources</li> <li>No centralized hospital drug price</li> <li>Lack of transparency</li> <li>Ineffective tendering</li> </ul>

## SEMMELWEIS PLAN (2011-2014)

SEMMELWEIS PLAN – GENERALLY	ACTIVITIES ARE FOCUSING ON HOSPITAL SECTOR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better patient flow organization</li> <li>Restructuring the health care delivery system</li> <li>Promotion the functional integration of provider institutions</li> <li>Technical quality development</li> <li>Moderate the territorial inequalities in the health care delivery system</li> <li>Sustainable rearrangement of the health system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During 2012 the state takes over the inpatient and outpatient specialist care institutions owned by municipal governments.</li> <li>Organization of services in “supraterritorial” level (larger than a county, but smaller than a region)</li> <li>Common tendering of drugs and medical devices for inpatient care institutions</li> <li>Development of sectoral informatics, national database</li> </ul>

## FUTURE AND POSSIBILITY

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The first centralized tender will be held in 2013. The tender will have two rounds.</li> <li>Data collection regarding the inpatient pharmaceutical consumption / new database</li> <li>After the first tender the Government plans to establish a new monitoring system. The National Pharma-Therapy Committee decides which active substance will be on the centralized list, and which will be procured by hospitals</li> <li>The Committee plans to buy drugs for maximum 4 years</li> <li>The savings are unpredictable</li> <li>Unit dose system (to measure the drug consumption on patient level, pilot introduction)</li> </ul>
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In these hard decades one of the most important things is to use our resources in the most effective way. Without investing in the IT system (new computers, new software), which are very expensive, it is impossible to build an effective hospital system. Based on a good installed and operated computer system, a high level data collection can be started. These databases can be a good basis to prepare different evaluations, analysis and reports, which can support the work of the health policy makers to build a sustainable and effective public hospital system in Hungary.

### Reference:

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