



**THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, MANAGEMENT
AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, BUCHAREST
(NSPHMPD)**

www.snspms.ro , www.perfmed.ro , www.drg.ro

ACTIVITY REPORT
2018

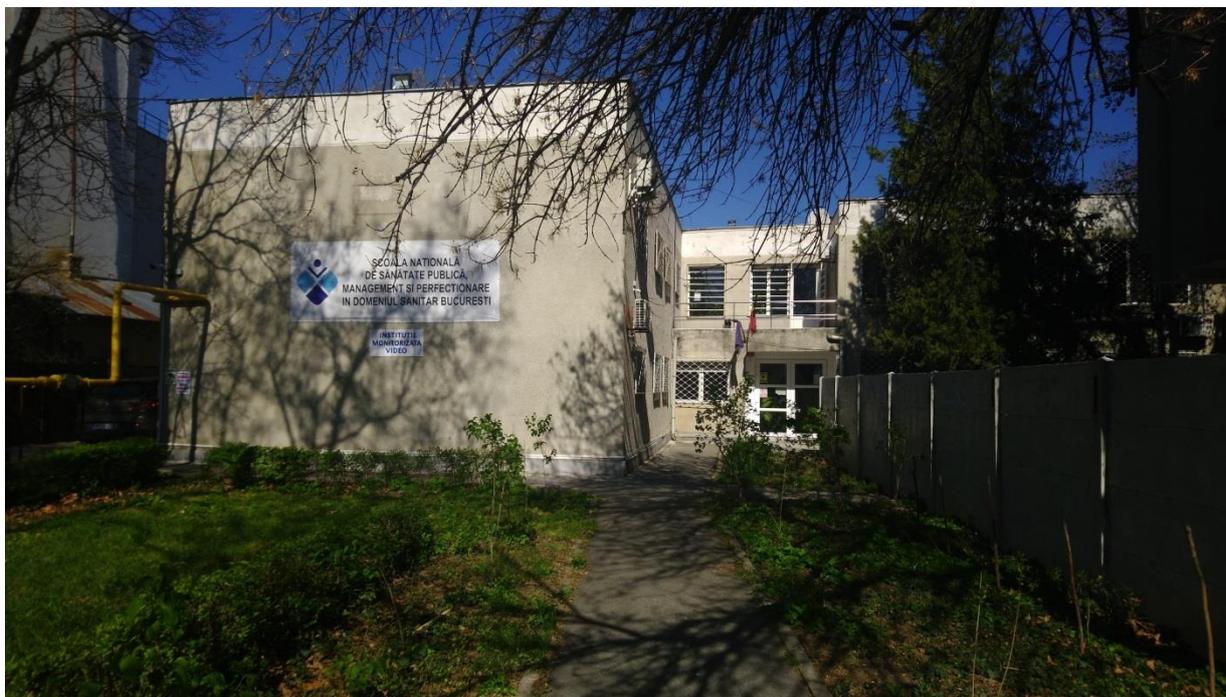


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary	2
I. Organizing professional training programs relevant to existing needs, provided at the best possible quality	5
II. Developing our scientific research activity and improving the capitalization of our scientific research results	11
III. Strengthening the NSPHMPDB institutional capacity for scientific research and development	25
 Annexes	
Annex 1. List of Publications in 2018	29
Annex 2. List of Papers presented in 2018	36

SUMMARY

The main directions in development of the National School of Public Health, Management and Professional Development Bucharest (NSPHMPDB), as assigned within the Strategy for institutional development during 2016-2020, are as following: Organizing and delivering, providing programs of training and professional development relevant to existing training needs, at the highest quality as possible; Developing the scientific research activity and improve the capitalization of our research results; Strengthening the NSPHMPDB institutional capacity for scientific research and development. Thus, our activity in 2018 has regarded the fulfillment of the general objectives of each of the three development directions mentioned above.

Organizing and delivering training programs for professional development relevant to the existing needs, at the best quality as possible

During the year 2018, NSPHMPDB have provided, through the Center for Management and Health Promotion (CMHP) and the Center of Health Services Research and Evaluation (CHSRE), seven different types of training programs in public health and health services management, totalizing 24 series and 745 course participants. The National Center for Professional Development in Health (NCPDH) has organized in 2018 a number of 62 training programs, totalizing 162 series of courses with 4.113 participants working in health care sector.

For the purpose of quality continuous improvement of the programs delivered by the NSPHMPDB, most of the themes and subjects of the training programs have been reviewed and updated in 2018, in order to respond to legislative changes, to new evidences published in the literature, and not least, to the training needs of our course participants. A new Professional development training programme for hospital evaluators has also been developed, according to the new Standards, Procedures and Methodology for hospital evaluation and accreditation, approved by the Minister of Health Order no. 446/2017.

The National Center for Professional Development in Health has organized a number of four new specialization programs for nurses as following: „Nephrology/Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis”, „Palliative Care”, „Pediatrics” and „CT Operator / MRI Operator”, a new certificate training in „Musculoskeletal Ultrasound in Medical Rehabilitation”, and two new e-learning programs: „Role of health professionals in preparing for conception and pregnancy”, and „Role of health professionals in pregnancy labor and birth delivery”.

NCPDH has also implemented the online registration on the NSPHMPDB web platform permed.ro for the specialized training programs for nurses, and prepare partial online development of the specialization programme „Nephrology/ Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis”. These endeavors are our way to adapt the training program delivery form to the needs and requests of trainees, and on the other hand, to improve the organizational performance through a better time management, given the lack of personnel in our institution.

Developing the scientific research activity and improve the capitalization of our research results

In 2018, NSPHMPDB has been a partner in five European projects with European financing. Three of these projects are run within the Third EU Public Health Programme (2014-2020) of the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), administrated by the European Commission with support from the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFAEA):

- EUnetHTA JA3 2016-2020 „European Network for HTA - Joint Action 3”;
- ADVANTAGE 2016-2019 „Managing Frailty. A comprehensive approach to promote a disability-free advanced age in Europe: the ADVANTAGE initiative”;
- JAHEE 2018-2021 „Joint Action Health Equity Europe – JAHEE”.

One project is financed by the program European Cooperation in Science and Technology: COST JA 2018-2022 „Towards an International Network for Evidence-based Research in Clinical Health Research (EVBRES)”.

One project is financed within the Human Capital Operational Programme 2014-2020, Priority Axis 4 – Improving the competency level of health professionals – “National modular Program for increasing the professional level of medical personnel in the National System of Defense, public order and national security” (2018-2020).

Research in hospital services management has continued during the year 2018 by identifying systemic problems with impact on reimbursement, as well as other aspects regarding the hospital services, resulting in evidences for the activity of consultancy and technical assistance provided to the National Social Health Insurance Fund, to the Ministry of Health and to other partners from public or private sector. DRG_National data basis has also been utilized for elaborating research papers published or presented to scientific events, but also in elaborating new research project proposals.

Research results have been disseminated through: 26 published scientific articles, out of which 23 articles in ISI journals, two chapters included in books published abroad (Cambridge University Press), four active participations (presenting, discussing papers, moderating, contributing to round tables etc.) in international conferences and 9 in national conferences.

Strengthening the NSPHMPDB institutional capacity for scientific research and development

In 2018, 18 employees of the NSPHMPDB have benefited from professional training both for developing skills and acquiring knowledge in new fields, and well as for developing the existing competences.

The “networking” activity has been continued for the purpose of professional development and identifying new opportunities for collaboration, by participating in actions within the professional networks where NSPHMPDB is a member: ASPHER – the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region, and EUPHA – the European Public Health Association.

New professional collaborations have also been considered. In January 2018, NSPHMPDB have participated in the debate organized by the National Institute of Administration with the public providers of continuous professional training, resulting in the Agreement signed to build the National Network of Training Providers for Public Administration. Other two new partnerships have been signed in 2018 for the purpose of applying to joint action projects: the partnership with the Romanian Society for Supporting

Elderly and Alzheimer Patients, and the partnership with the National Institute for Mother and Child Health.

As member within other international networks, NSPHMPDB contributed in 2018 in activities performed in the EUnetHTA network for the Joint Action EUnetHTA JA3, and in the JBI network (Joanna Briggs Institute) by accomplishing 19 protocol revisions or systematic literature reviews.

Other collaborations within actions done during the year 2018 or in perspective of future projects, having as partners: the European Observatory for Health Systems and Policies, the National Agency for Quality Management in Health (NAQMH), the National Institute of Public Health, National Institute of Statistics in Romania, the Romanian College of Physicians, the Romanian Order of General Nurses, Midwives and Professional Nurses (ROGNMPN), Filantropia Federation, Romanian Patriarchy Organization, Romanian Office of the World Bank (WB), Office in Romania of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the National Institute for Mother and Child Health “Alessandrescu-Rusescu”. NSPHMPDB has also been among the signatories of the Chart for 2035 – Romania's first Tobacco-Free Generation, and has participated in the actions for population awareness on the risk of tuberculosis within the „Stop TB!” Romanian Partnership.

Several activities accomplished during the year 2018 have contributed to the achievement of the main general objectives set in the NSPHMPDB Institutional Development Strategy 2016-2020, especially by: starting new programs of training and professional development according to the training needs as identified, updating the existing training programs in terms of content and/or teaching methods, and organizing courses in order to meet the participants needs; selecting research subjects in concordance with the current needs of the Romanian healthcare system, with priorities identified at European level, and with NSPHMPDB expertise; continuing research in hospital services management, through new studies of topical interest, by using NSPHMPDB experience and expertise, and in accordance with specific needs expressed by the main stakeholders (the Ministry of Health, the National Social Health Insurance Fund, the National Agency for Quality Management in Health, hospitals); proper dissemination and capitalization of the results from the NSPHMPDB research studies and projects; training, preparing and professional development of our specialized personnel in order to extend the excellence areas and to improve performance in research and training in the field of public health and health management; continue the networking activities with reference experts and organizations in public health and health management research, at national and European/international level.

I. Organizing professional training programs relevant to existing needs, provided at the best possible quality

The provision of training programs in public health and health management, and organization of training and professional development programs for healthcare personnel, in other areas, during 2018, both the requests received from the beneficiaries, as well as the objectives of the NSPHMPDB development strategy 2016-2020, have been considered. Therefore, training activities proposed and achieved in 2018 converged to fulfillment of the four main general objectives of this strategy:

- Diversification programs de training and development professional for more target groups of specialists working in the healthcare system;
- Initiating new programs of training and professional development in accordance to the training needs, as identified;
- Updating the existing training programs in terms of content and/or course teaching and organizing methods in order to meet the training needs of the participants;
- Implementing mechanisms and processes for continuous improvement of quality of the training programs.

Training Programs in public health and health management delivered during the year 2018 by the *Center for Management and Health Promotion (CMHP)* and by the *Center of Health Services Research and Evaluation (CHSRE)* are presented in Table 1.

Certification Training Program in Health services management has been organized and delivered in Bucharest (two series), as well as in the country (two series at Iași, two series at Timișoara, and one series at Covasna city). Organization of these programs in other locations than Bucharest took into consideration the requests of course participants and facilitating the participation in the program by eliminating or reducing the costs of accommodation and transportation. The training programs at Iași and Timișoara have been organized and provided in collaboration with the Public Health and Health Management Departments from the “Gr. T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy – at Iași, and from the “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy – at Timișoara. Two out of these series have begun in 2017 and have finished in 2018, while three series are to be finalized in 2019. The total number of participants in the certification programs during 2018 was 253. The *Training Program in Hospital Management dedicated to the hospital managers* have had three series and registered a number of 102 participants, while 98 persons have participated in the three series of the *Training Program Hospital Management for hospital head nurses and nurse superiors*.

The Training Program for Hospital Quality Management organized for the *employees* of the hospital departments for quality management has had *five* series, out of which two series have been organized for *persons* without a previous working experience in a hospital, and three have been for the advanced personnel already having work experience in a hospital, totalizing 157 participants.

Table 1. Structure of series and course participant numbers per type of training program in public health and health management, as provided during 2018

Training program type	Number of series per each type of program	Number of participants per each program
Certification Programme in Health Services Management (AT) for specialist MDs	7	253
Hospital Management (MS) for hospital managers	3	102
Hospital Management for hospital head nurses and nurse superiors	3	98
Quality Management in hospital	5	157
Training Program for hospital evaluators	1	22
Professional Development Program for hospital evaluators	3	50
Reporting, contracting and reimbursing the hospital services (DRG)	2	63
Total	24	745

Data source: CMHP

Four series of training programs have been organized in collaboration with the National Authority of Quality Management in Health (NAQMH) in 2018, respectively one series of the *Training Program for hospital evaluators*, with 22 participants, and three series of the *Professional Development Programme for hospital evaluators*, with 50 participants.

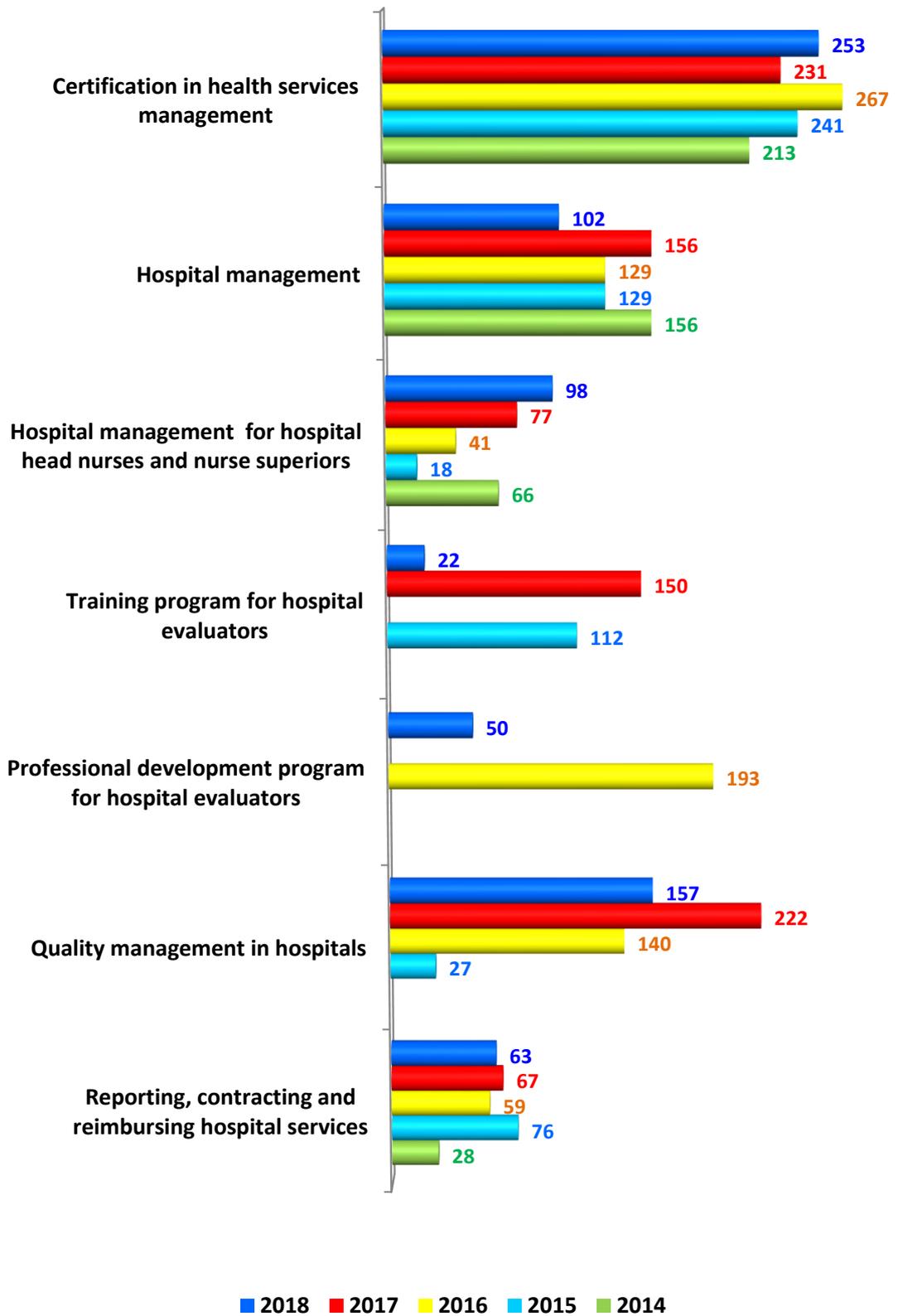
The Center of Health Services Research and Evaluation (CHSRE) has organized and provided in 2018 two series of *Training Program in Reporting, contracting and reimbursing the hospital services (DRG)*, dedicated to the hospital personnel in charge with reporting and monitoring the clinical activity, totalizing 63 participants.

Analyzing the dynamics of participants in the training programs provided by the NSPHMPDB during the period 2014-2018 (figure 1), it appears a rising number of participants in the Certification Programme in Health Services Management and in the program Hospital Management for hospital head nurses and nurse superiors, and a decrease of course participants in the Hospital Management Program for hospital managers. This development has no specific determinant, staying within the usual variations of the number of course participants, according to the requests received and to the NSPHMPDB capacity for organizing training programs. Larger variations have been observed in the programs developed in collaboration with NAQMH, as organized according to the policy training and professional development established by the NAQMH for the hospital evaluators.

In 2018, the training programs provided by the NSPHMPDB totalized a number of 2,460 course hours, out of which 1,648 hours have been taught by our own trainers (67%), while 812 hours have been taught by external collaborators (Figure 2).

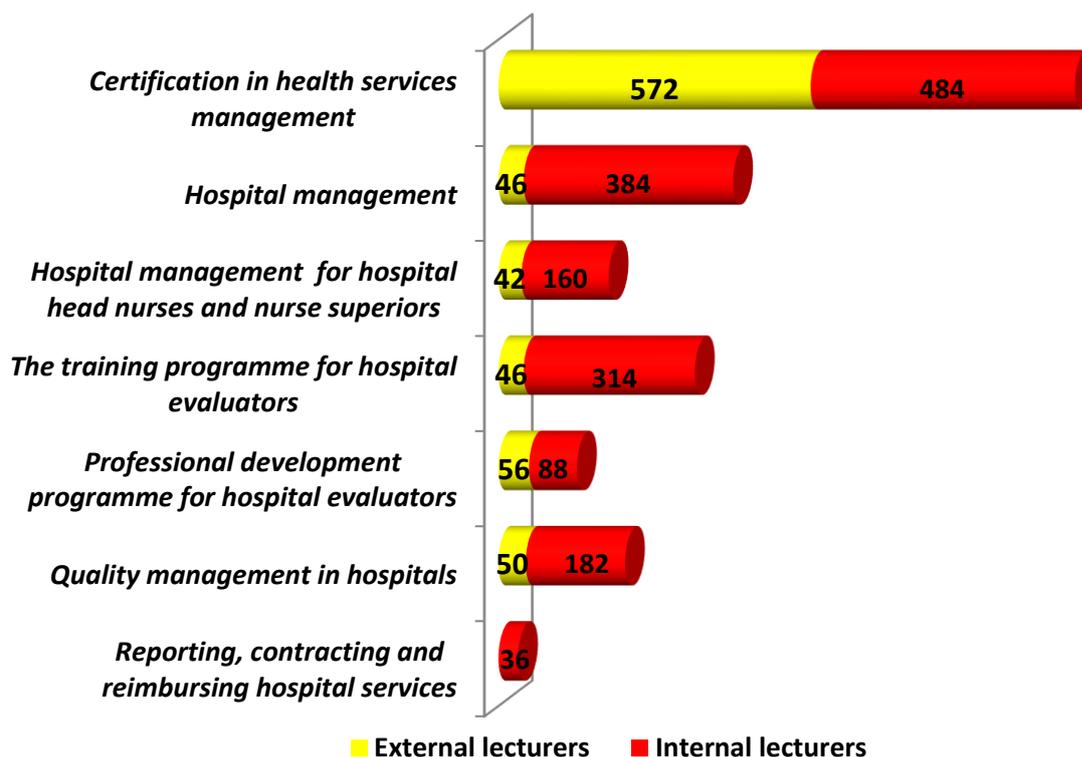
Figure 1. Distribution of course participants per program types during 2014-2018

Distribution of course participants by program type, 2014 - 2018



Data source: CMHP

Figure 2. Distribution of course hours per type of program and lecturers in 2018



Data source: CMHP

The course hours presented above do not include the support and coordination activities with trainees for preparing the final exam papers within the programs “Hospital Management”, “Certification Program in Health Services Management”, and “Quality Management in Hospitals”.

For the purpose of continuous quality improvement of the training programs provided by the NSPHMPDB, a great majority of the subjects presented within the training programs have been reviewed and updated in 2018, in order to respond to the legislative changes, new evidences published in the literature, and not least, to the needs of our trainees. The course session summaries, and the course materials/ manuals in Word format, as well as the course presentations in PowerPoint format, have been updated.

A new Professional Development Program for hospital evaluators has been developed in 2018, according to the new Standards, Procedures and Methodology of hospital evaluation and accreditation, approved by the Minister of Health Order no. 446/2017. The course curriculum and course materials have been elaborated in collaboration with NAQMH experts. 30 course materials have been developed in total, out of which 24 have been elaborated by the CMHP employees.

The National Center for Professional Development in Health (NCPDH) have organized 62 training programs in 2018, totalizing 162 course series with 4,113 participants working in healthcare sector. Structure of the training programs, number of series and number of course participants in 2018 are presented in Table 2 below.

Analysis of the evolution of number of programs organized by the NCPDH in 2018 compared with previous years (Table 2, Figure 3), indicates a slight increase in 2018 towards 2017: 62 vs. 59 programs, respectively 162 vs. 156 total number or course series. This

increase is due to the four new specialization programs for nurses in order to acquire skills, organized according to the Minister of Health Order no. 942/2017, respectively “Nephrology/Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis”, “Palliative care”, “Pediatrics” and “CT Operator / MRI Operator”, with 18 course series, thus the total number of series for specialization programs for nurses reaching 30, towards 23 in 2017.

Table 2. Number of training programs, course series and number of participants in each type of program organized by the National Center for Professional Development in Health in 2018, compared to 2017

Type of training program	No. of programs per each type		Total no. of course series per each program type		Total nr. of participants per each program type	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Certificate programs for physicians	21	20	39	42	901	856
CME for physicians / dentists	9	7	17	23	570	792
CME medical nurses, emergency medical technician, caregivers	8	9	54	41	1320	1608
CME physiotherapists	2	2	8	2	138	37
Training and evaluation of trainers	2	5	2	5	37	64
Specialization medical nurses, professional reconversion, skills	9	5	30	23	880	685
Practice placements for medical nurses	5	6	35	15	35	28
CME distance e-learning	7	5	7	5	200	97
Total	62	59	162	156	4113	4167

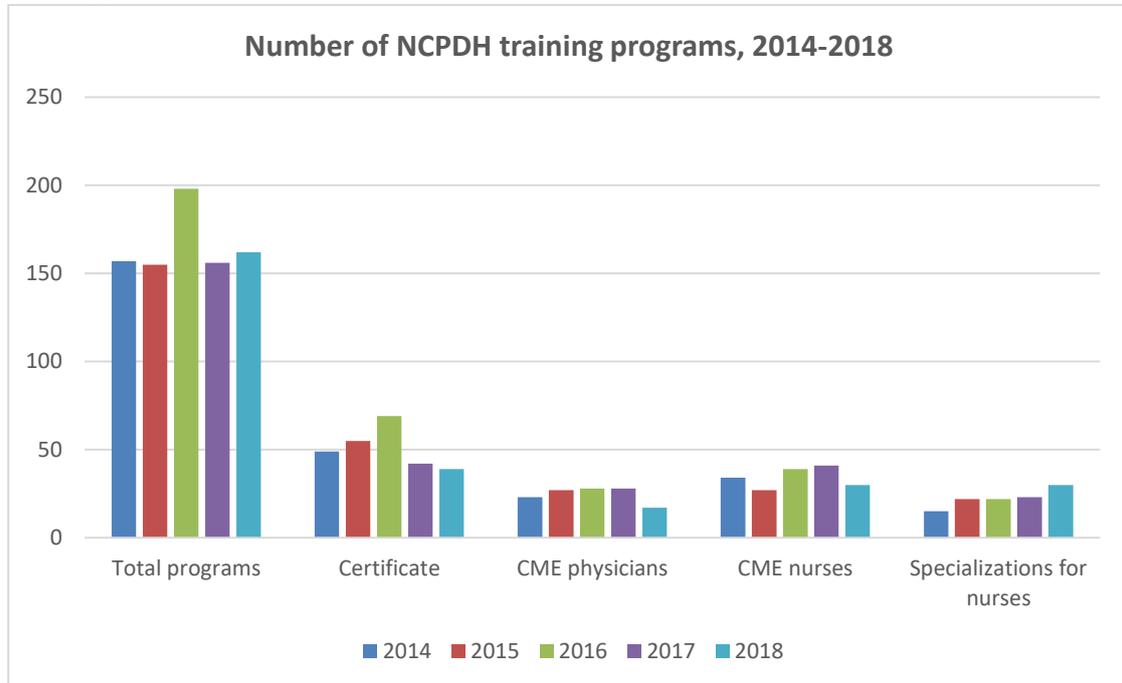
Data source: NCPDH

The number of participants in the training programs organized by the NCPDH in 2018, (Table 2, Figure 4) slightly decreased as compared to 2017. It is due especially to a smaller number of participants in CME programs both for physicians and for medical nurses. Programs registering an increased number of participants were those of specialization for medical nurses (880 vs. 685), certificate training programs for different specializations for physicians (901 vs. 856), and especially CME programs for physiotherapists (138 vs. 37), and e-learning programs (200 vs. 97).

Besides the four new programs of skills acquirement specialization for medical nurses “Nephrology/Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis”, “Palliative care”, “Pediatrics” and “CT Operator / MRI Operator”, during 2018 another new training program has been organized regarding certification in “Musculoskeletal ultrasound in medical rehabilitation”, and two new

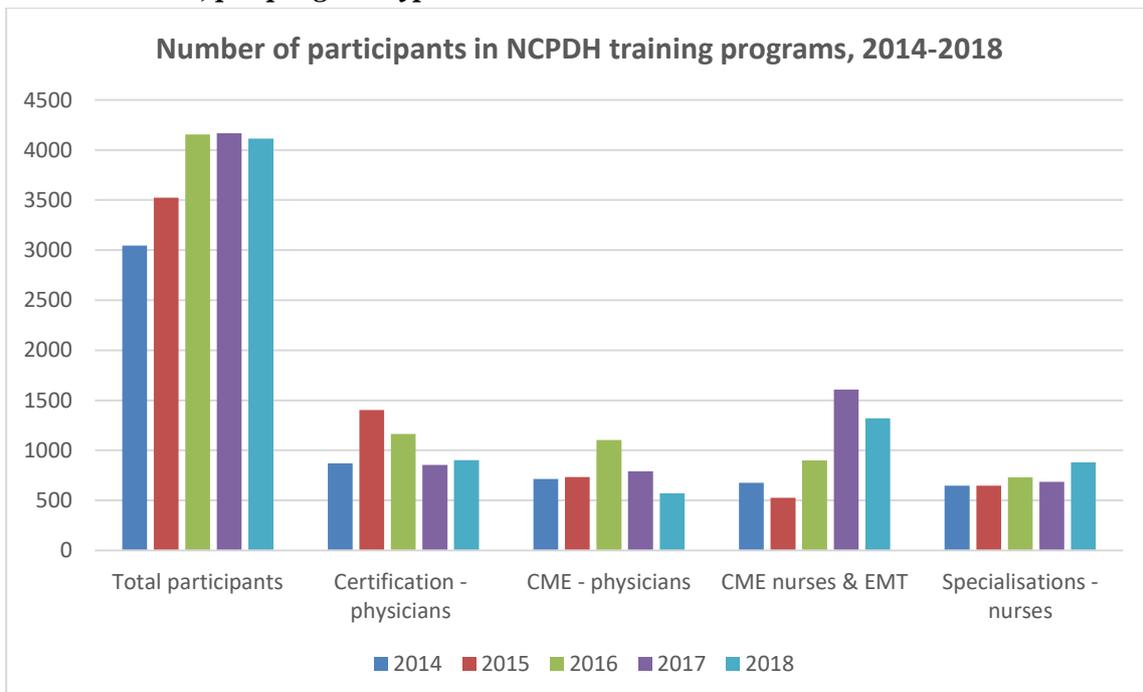
e-learning programs addressed to medical doctors and nurses: “Role of healthcare professionals in preparation for conception and pregnancy”, and “Role of healthcare professionals in pregnancy, labor and delivery”, conceptually developed in 2017-2018.

Figure 3. Dynamic of programs organized by the NCPDH during the period 2014-2018, per program type



Data source: NCPDH

Figure 4. Dynamic of course participants in programs organized by the NCPDH during the period 2014-2018, per program type



Data source: NCPDH

A new element in specialization programs dedicated to medical nurses was the registration of participants in these programs by using NSPHMPDB web-platform perfmed.ro. Within E-learning Programs Coordination Department, an application for online registration of medical nurses has been elaborated, for the *five* specialization programs regarding the existing professional reconversion, as well as for the existing or developing programs for the 15 specializations related to professional skills development. Platform has been accessed by 284 healthcare facilities and a number of 699 files have been registered on perfmed.ro platform, especially for development skills specialization programs, while the registration for professional reconversion programs was partially done in classical format before opening the platform. This has led to an increase in the organizational performance through a better time management, while our institution works with staff shortage.

Within the specialization program of “Nephrology/Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis” according to the curriculum approved by the Ministry of Health, the theoretical component (of 378 hours) is structured in 11 modules and will be entirely developed on the platform perfmed.ro and delivered to the trainees in online format exclusively. First two modules have already been developed, and the access of participants on platform perfmed.ro for each theoretical module shall be carried out at a 1-4 weeks interval, depending on the module length and its allocated duration. These endeavors indicate adaptation of provision form of the training programs according to the needs and requests of course participants, for whom the access on online platform allows them to continue the job activity at their workplaces.

II. Developing our scientific research activity and improving the capitalization of our scientific research results

Research activity developed within the NSPHMPDB in 2018 have considered the main objectives of the NSPHMPDB Development Strategy 2016-2020 in direction of developing the scientific research activities and capitalizing the research results, as following:

- Selection of the scientific research topics in accordance with the current needs of the Romanian healthcare system, with health priorities identified at European level, and according to the NSPHMPDB specific expertise;
- Continue the research in hospital services management, by new studies of topical interest using the NSPHMPDB expertise and experience, and in accordance with the needs expressed by the main stakeholders (the Ministry of Health, CNAS, NAQMH, hospitals);
- Training needs assessment in public health and health management, and achievement of impact studies as basis for future training programs;
- Proper dissemination and capitalization of results of the studies and research projects conducted by NSPHMPDB;
- Improvement of methodologies, protocols and procedures applied in research activities performed within the NSPHMPDB.

In 2018 *five* projects with European financing, from European Commission programs or from structural funds have been developed at NSPHMPDB level.

Three projects have been carried out within the third EU public health program (2014-2020) of the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), administered by the European Commission with support of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFAEA):

- EUnetHTA JA3 2016-2020, “European Network for HTA - Joint Action 3”;
- ADVANTAGE 2016-2019, “Managing Frailty. A comprehensive approach to promote a disability-free advanced age in Europe: the ADVANTAGE initiative”;
- JAHEE 2018-2021, “Joint Action Health Equity Europe – JAHEE”.

One project is financed from the program European Cooperation in Science and Technology: COST JA 2018-2022, “Towards an International Network for Evidence-based Research in Clinical Health Research- (EVBRES)”.

Another project is financed within the Operational Programme Human Capital 2014-2020, Priority Axis 4 – Improving the competency level of professionals working in the health sector – “Modular National Program for increasing the professional level of medical staff from the national system of defense, public order and national security” (2018-2020).

“European Network for HTA - Joint Action 3” (EUnetHTA JA3)

Financing source: European Commission - DG SANTE, and own sources.

Project duration: 4 years (2016-2020).

Partners: EUnetHTA JA 3 Project is conducted by a consortium of 79 partners from 29 countries, and coordinated by the National Health Care Institute from the Netherlands.

Network website: <http://www.eunethta.eu/>

The purpose of this project is to implement a sustainable model of technical and scientific cooperation in health technology assessment at European level.

EUnetHTA JA3 strategic objectives are:

- Improving the application of the tools through an international HTA collaboration;
- Strengthening and improving collaborations within the EuNetHTA network conducting to a better understanding (from the EC and member states) of methods of establishing a stable HTA structure within the European Union;
- Developing a general strategy including principles and proposals for implementing a sustainable collaboration at European level, in accordance with provisions of the article 15 of “The Directive for cross-border healthcare”;
- Creating an efficient collaboration framework in rapid assessment of medical technologies;
- Standardizing the HTA reports used for decisions related to reimbursement of health services and elaborating clinical practice guidelines.

Expected results:

Current collaboration continues previous projects EUnetHTA JA1 and JA2. This third phase is based on previous collaborations resulting in a series of tools necessary for transnational collaboration between the HTA networks members, aimed to produce HTA reports.

The main expected result is to define and implement a permanent network sustainable for collaboration in health technology assessment in Europe. Further results are expected:

- Producing at least 50 HTA reports per year;

- Increasing the quality of HTA reports, and adapting and using these collaborative reports at national level;
- Improving decision making and health policies elaboration at member states level based on disseminated information, in order to protect citizens against unsafe and ineffective health technologies and finally get a better health status of the population.

NSPHMPDB participate within this project in 4 working packages:

WP4 – Joint production of HTA reports through international collaboration;

WP5 – Improve the Evidence generation;

WP6 – Quality Management, Scientific Guidance and Tools;

WP7 – National implementation and Impact

In 2018, NSPHMPDB participated in several project activities, out of which some are finalized while others are in progress:

- Participation as author, in collaboration with other partners of WP4, in achieving a material with recommendations regarding identification, selection and prioritizing the health technologies to be assessed “Horizon Scanning: Recommendations for a Topic selection, Identification and Prioritization” and planning a pilot exercise of setting priorities – to be achieved in 2019;
- Participation as co-author in assessing Bioabsorbable coronary stents in cardiovascular surgery (coronary artery disease) - WP4 (activity to be continued in 2019);
- Participation in revision process and assessment report of Screening for osteoporosis in general population - WP4 (activity to be continued in 2019);
- Revision of 11 SOP-Standard Operational Procedures, within WP6: “Call for collaboration and formation of assessment team OT” (Informing and building-up the



assessment team for other health technologies than medicines), “Risk of bias assessment of clinical studies_OT”, “Risk of bias assessment of clinical studies_PT”, “Queries to authors”, “Fact Check Guidance”, “Graphical Editing of

the 4th draft assessment”, “Data analysis”, “ External Review of 2nd draft Project Plan by external experts and patients”, “Identification of Stakeholders”, “Data Extraction”, “Scoping and Drafting the Project Plan”;

- Final revision of guideline for critical analysis of economic evaluations, “Critical appraisal of economic evaluation” (WP 6);
- Revision of documents elaborated by other partners within work packages WP5 and WP7;
- Participation in 5 direct meetings organized within the working packages WP1, WP4, WP5, WP6, and WP7;

- Participation, by the EUnetHTA, in the Round Table for Europe, organized within the Annual European Congress of ISPOR (International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research), discussing about: assessment of electronic applications for health promotion and maintenance (known as digital technology), using data and evidences provided by various population sources (disease registers, usual data basis etc.), models of reimbursement and settlement of prices for personalized treatments and involvement of patients in health technology assessment.



“Managing Frailty. A comprehensive approach to promote a disability-free advanced age in Europe: the ADVANTAGE initiative” (ADVANTAGE)

Financing sources: European Commission - DG SANTE, and own sources.

Project period: 3 years (2016-2019).

Partners: Project ADVANTAGE is conducted by a consortium of 35 partners, coordinated by the Getafe Institute for Research in Health Care (*Fundacion para la Investigacion Biomedica del Hospital Universitario de Getafe*), from Spain.

Website: <http://www.advantageja.eu/>

Project purpose is to attain a common understanding of the “frailty” condition and term, to be further used in all the EU member states, and should represent the basis for a united management at individual level, as well as at elderly level, as *persons* fragile or at risk for developing frailty. Identification of the basic components of frailty and its management should promote the need for change in organization and implementation of healthcare services and social services, in order to offer models of care; existing results at national level will allow member states to be able to face the challenge within a mutual framework.

Project objectives:

Project will summarize the current state regarding “frailty” management at individual level, as well as in general population, will collect information about development of programs for approaching “frailty” in elderly, and will finally propose, as a main result, a European common model for approaching “frailty”. This principal result will include a roadmap of stages to be covered on short, medium and long term. This roadmap will propose not just measurement/evaluation for implementation of health and social services (to meet the

current unmet needs, bigger for people at risk of “frailty”), but also using the same approach, it will collect/identify lack of knowledge in this subject matter.

Specific objectives of ADVANTAGE project:

- Standardize evaluation of individual “frailty” (define, diagnose);
- Identify clinical aspects, evaluate comorbidities;
- Identify the prevalence of frailty in population;
- Identify the pathway and transitional states of “frailty”;
- Explore strategies, obstacles and opportunities;
- Revision of data management at individual level;
- Elaborate prevention and clinical management guidelines;
- Identify and disseminate the good practices;
- Analyze the impact of individual healthcare models;
- Transfer of information and good practices;
- Analyze the integration of medical and social services;
- Analyze the costs and benefits.

Expected results:

- Finding a common definition for the term “frailty”;
- Possibility of standardized diagnose;
- Finding prevalence in population;
- Identifying frailty patient pathway and defining “frailty” transitional stages;
- Identifying strategies, obstacles and opportunities;
- Elaborating guidelines for prevention and clinical management;
- Disseminating examples of good practice;
- Results of analysis regarding integration of medical and social services;
- Results of analysis of costs and benefits.

NSPHMPDB participate in four working groups of this project:

WP2 - communication, awareness and dissemination;

WP4 - Frailty at individual level;

WP5 - Frailty at population level;

WP7- models of care (for preventing or delaying “frailty”, thus allowing elderly to have a good life).

2018 project activities with participation of the NSPHMPDB:

- Organizing and unfolding first local-regional meeting with stakeholders for project dissemination and awareness of decision makers regarding the importance of “frailty”, within WP2;
- Organizing the second local-regional meeting with



stakeholders for project dissemination and awareness of decision makers regarding the importance of “frailty”, within WP2;

- Participating in the elaboration of report of systematic literature review regarding the relationship between chronic diseases (diabetes mellitus, cardiac failure) and “frailty”;
- Revision of the documents elaborated by other partners within the packages WP4, WP5 and WP7;
- Providing information about main stakeholders interested in elderly frailty in Romania;
- Disseminate project results through participation in elaboration, submission and publishing of 5 articles within WP5 and WP7;
- Participating in 2 national scientific events with communication on the topic of frailty and concern for frailty at European level:

- “Grant Advantage JA: Premises for approaching frailty in elderly patients with cognitive impairment”, National Congress of Geriatrics and Gerontology 2018, section: Standards of care for residential services;



- “Role of the family physician in case management of the fragile elderly in Romania”, the regional Conference of Family Medicine “Dr. Mircea Iorga Medical Days” 2018.

“Joint Action on Health Inequalities” (JA-HI)

Source de financing: European Commission - DG SANTE and own sources.

Project period: 3 years (2018-2021).

Partners: Project is conducted by a consortium of 25 partners, coordinated by the National Health Institute from Italy (*Institutuo Superiore di Sanita*). Other 24 institution from EU member states participate as affiliates of collaborators. For this project, NSPHMPDB is associated with the National Institute for Mother and Child Health "Alessandrescu-Rusescu" Bucharest – as affiliated organization.

Project aim is the improvement of the EU citizens health and welfare, and attaining a higher equity in terms of final results impacting all the health groups in society through a strong focus on socio-economic determinants of health, as well as focusing on lifelong lifestyle related inequalities.

Specific objectives of this project:

- Provide a clear frame policy with a list of actions and recommendations to be implemented at national, regional and local level;
- Develop more effective policies at national, regional and local level, and improve their monitoring, governance, implementing and evaluation;
- Implement “good practices” and facilitate exchange of experience between the EU member states, in order to acquire new knowledge and practices;
- Identify success factors, barriers and challenges, as well as ways for overcoming them.

Expected results:

- Action framework for reducing health inequities in EU and the member states;
- Evaluations and recommendations la national level for reducing inequities among EU member states;
- Report lessons learned from case studies related to fight against inequalities and counteraction challenges in health inequalities – reports per each WP and one final report;
- Final results of this project will be translated in useful materials for political decision makers and stakeholders, such as: political synthesis, graphic information, videos and de communication of evidences from the EU at local level.

Project activities are planned with 9 work packages:

WP 1 - Management of actions;

WP 2 - Disseminate results;

WP 3 - Evaluation of actions;

WP 4 - Integration in national policies and project sustainability;

WP 5 - Monitoring activities;

WP 6 – healthy life environment;

WP 7 - Migration and health;

WP 8 – Improving the access to health services and related social services;

WP 9 - Health and equity in all policies – Governance.

NSPHMPDB participate in working packages WP4, WP5, WP6, WP8 and WP9.

2018 project activities with NSPHMPDB participation:

- Establish specific roles and activities for each partner institution within joint actions, and planning the project activities;
- Revision of the materials on bases of which country assessments are to be elaborated and described actions to be implemented within this project, at national level: Policy Framework for Action and the structure of country assessment (Country Assessment Template), within packages WP6, WP8 and WP9;
- Participation in two meetings of starting the activities within the working packages WP6 and WP8.



“Towards an International Network for Evidence-based Research in Clinical Health Research- (EVBRES)”

Financing source: European Cooperation Programme for Science and Technology COST JA 2018-2022, and own sources.

Period project: 4 years (2018-2022).

Partners: research organizations from 33 countries. NSPHMPDB participate in this action together with the “Spiru Haret” University. Coordinating organization is the Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, from Bergen (Norway).

The purpose of this action is to use the research results in underling new studies in a systematic and transparent way (by systematic reviews), so that valid, efficient and accessible evidences to be obtained.

Specific objectives for research coordination:

- Increasing the awareness and acceptance of this challenge by all stakeholders;
- Develop training materials for in Evidence-Based Research (EBR);
- Facilitate collaborations between stakeholders for increasing the efficiency of update and elaboration of the systematic reviews;
- Create a shared vision on the evaluation of EBR implementation.

Specific objectives for capacity development:

- Identify implications of EBR approach for each stakeholder;
- Training researchers in EBR application;
- Describe processes and technologies used in systematic reviews requiring improvements;
- Set up a common understanding on monitoring of EBR application in clinical research.

Structure of the working packages:

WP 1 Dissemination and exploitation

WP 2 Develop EBR methods for clinical research and training

WP 3 Improving efficiency in producing and updating systematic reviews

WP 4 Meta-research

Expected results:

- Performing a Delphi study regarding the involvement of ethic committees, financing agencies and scientific medical journals, in EBR;
- Identifying obstacles, difficulties and required knowledge, through a Delphi study; a promotion matter for conferences and a manual for online training are to be achieved based on study results;
- Identify areas for improving the efficiency of producing and updating the systematic reviews, by Delphi method;
- Performing a Delphi study to identify how to properly evaluate clinical research and start implementing these methods.

Project activities and action plan have been elaborated during 2018. Allocation of specific roles, by the project coordinator, is to be decided within the project meeting in February 2019.

“National modular Program for improving the professional level of the medical personnel within the National system of defense, public order and national security” (code SMIS108196)

Financing sources: Operational Programme “Human Capital” 2014-2020, Priority Axis 4 - Social inclusion and fighting poverty, Specific Objective 4.8 – „Improving the competence level of professionals in health sector” and own sources.

Project period: 30 months (26.02.2018-25.08.2020).

Partners: Project is conducted by the "Prof. Dr. Dimitrie Gerota" Emergency Hospital, of the Ministry of Administration and Internal Affairs, in collaboration with the University Emergency Central Military Hospital „Dr. Carol Davila”, Clinical Emergency Hospital „Prof.

Dr. Agrippa Ionescu” (UM 0521), and the National School of Public Health, Management and Professional Development. There are also *five* associated partners in the project: Medical Department of the Ministry of Administration and Internal Affairs, the Ministry of National Defense, Medical Department of the Penitentiary National Agency, SPP Medical Center, STS Medical Center.

The purpose of this project is to increase the quality of medical care provided in health facilities from the network of defense and public order system, by providing a unitary training program implemented at national level, therefore increasing the level of professional competence in the target group.

Specific objectives of the project:

- Improving professional skills in major noncommunicable diseases of 1,300 healthcare professionals from all the country regions involved in priority health programs for security, defense and public order, through modular courses.
- Improving professional skills in major noncommunicable diseases of 60 healthcare professionals from all the country regions involved in priority health programs for security, defense and public order, through experience / good practices exchange in Europe, especially in similar military hospitals.

Expected results:

- 1,300 *beneficiaries* of training and/or good practices exchange, out of whom: 1,170 *persons* coming from less developed regions, and 130 *persons* from developed regions.
- 1,300 *beneficiaries* who improved their professional qualification level, out of whom: 1,170 *beneficiaries* coming from less developed regions, and 130 *persons* from developed regions.
- 60 *beneficiaries* of good practices exchange.

NSPHMPDB role in this project:

- Developing the educational packages in terms of providing the trainer according to adult learning principles (course participant manual, trainer manual);
- Accreditation of CME programs for medical nurses and CME credit request from the Romanian Order of General Nurses, Midwives and Professional Nurses (continuous medical education credit files);
- Accreditation of CME programs for physicians and CME credit request from the Romanian College of Physicians (continuous medical education credit files);
- Accomplish e-learning module for nurses / physicians;
- Certificate nurses and physicians who graduated the CME programs.

Project launching Conference and preparatory project activities have been held in 2018: building the working teams, selecting the trainers and developing the course curriculum for professional training programs addressed to nurses and doctors. The Training Programs will be provided in 2019.



Projects started in 2018

In 2018, the Ministry of Health in partnership with the NSPHMPDB, the National Agency of Quality Management in Health (NAQMH), and the National Social Health Insurance Fund (CNAS), have submitted the project ***“Improving the quality and performance of hospital services through cost evaluation and standardization (CaPeSSCoSt)”*** (108196), within the Operational Programme “Administrative Capacity” 2014–2020, Component 1 - IP12/2018 - Support for consolidating capacity of public authorities and central institutions, Priority Axis - Efficient public administration and judiciary system, Operation - Developing and introducing in public administration common systems and standards that optimize decision making process citizen-oriented and business environment, in accordance with the Government Strategy for the Consolidation of the Public Administration.

General Objective of the project is, by developing a set of tools for costing and quality in health and a unitary framework of their use, to support the process of elaborating and implementing evidenced-based health policies, thus contributing to improvement of quality and performance of hospital services in Romania.

Specific objectives

- Systematize data collection process and prepare data used for calculation of hospital services costs in Romania, by elaborating and implementing unitary tools needed for analysis and evaluation of health services;
- Elaborate and adopt costing standards for the first 20 most frequent pathologies - hospitalized morbidity - continuous hospital care, therefore consolidating the administrative capacity of strategic and financial planning at health system level;
- Systematize and simplify the legislation related to quality in healthcare.

NSPHMPDB have been included in a consortium of 22 partners from 13 countries (ERNST CONSORTIUM) applying an action proposal ***“European Researchers Network Working on Second Victims” / (ERNST)*** for financing within the COST network (European Cooperation in Science & Technology).

Purpose of this action is to facilitate discussions and to share scientific knowledge, perspectives, legislation and norms, as well as the best practices related to the adverse events in medical institutions, in order to apply joint efforts for supporting secondary victims and to

introduce an open dialog and discussion between the stakeholders regarding the consequences of the “secondary victim” phenomenon, based on transnational collaboration integrating different disciplines and approaches, including the judicial, educational, professional and socio-economic perspectives.

Our research activity is based mostly on the hospital patient data as continuously collected by the NSPHMPDB through the *Center of Health Services Research and Evaluation*, receiving reports from all the Romanian hospitals in contract with the National Social Health Insurance Fund (NSHIF), and also administering the DRG_National database. NSPHMPDB perform the following activities on bases of contract signed with NSHIF: electronic data set collection for all cases discharged from hospitals, their validation and DRG patient classification; assess activities and performance of healthcare providers, evaluate the quality of medical services; monitor conformation of patient data collected with quality standards, propose methodologies for calculation of hospital weighted case tariffs. *CHSRE* experts also study and elaborate proposals for developing patient classification systems and patient costing methodologies, participate in elaboration of financing adjustment methods for healthcare facilities, criteria for evaluation of management performance and tools for their comparative evaluation.

Legislative updates and modifications have been integrated in data collection application DRG_National in 2018, and also in data import and processing applications.

Three analysis and six reports on issues potentially impacting reimbursement of hospital services have been quarterly achieved, within the contract signed with the NSHIF, as following:

- Analysis “Top 50 hospitals with the highest share of expensive DRGs in total discharged cases reported and validated”;
- Analysis of reporting and coding errors signaling issues with impact on hospital reimbursement;
- Analysis of the first 10 surgical procedures generating the largest differences in DRG classification of weighted cases;
- Report regarding the ratio of patients admitted in hospital as „emergency”, per hospitals and per hospital ward / specialty;
- Report of most frequent 20 types of cases and services reported in day hospital care;
- Report on CMI accomplished per hospital, compared to CMI values published in the rules for implementing the Framework Contract;
- Report concerning the variation of case-mix index accomplished per hospital ward, in relation to the national average calculated for each specialty;
- Report about the evolution of cases readmitted in 48 hours for the same pathology, in the same type of hospital care (acute / chronic);
- Report concerning the medical procedures and laboratory medical tests performed in day hospital care, per types of services.

DRG database is also used for performing data analysis requested by third parties based on a contract or convention of collaboration. The following studies and analysis have been performed hereby in 2018:

- Analysis of hospital cases diagnosed with gall bladder cancer as reported in continuous care and day care, during the period January 1st, 2017 – December 31st, 2017;

- Analysis of the number of hospital admissions as daily reported by public and private providers, for patients domiciled in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Constanța, Iași and Timișoara municipalities, during the period January 1st, 2007 – December 31st, 2017;
- Indicators of hospital services used by patients with chronic heart failure, per hospital, in 2017;
- Evaluation of patient hospital episodes during the period January 1st, 2007 – December 31st, 2017;
- Analysis of cases diagnosed with ADHD in adult patients, as reported in hospital care during January 1st, 2015 - December 31st, 2018;
- Consultancy for calculating certain indicators based on inpatient and day care data reported by the Romanian hospitals, for semester I, 2018;
- Calculation of certain indicators concerning public and private hospital use in Romania, at hospital level and ward level, years 2015 - 2017;
- Statistics and analysis concerning evaluation of cases with birth delivery as main diagnostic, at national level, as reported by the hospitals in 2017;
- Calculation of certain indicators related to patients diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and its complications, as admitted in hospital during the period 2016-2017;
- Consultancy for calculating certain indicators based on patient data reported by the Romanian hospitals concerning their hospital admissions and day care, for 2017;
- Assessment of inpatient cases with acute myocardial infarction (AMI), cerebrovascular accident (CVA), transient ischemic attack (TIA), total cases reported and classified in CMD20, CMD21, CMD22, delivery and its associated mortality at national level, as reported by the hospitals, during the years 2007-2016.

Analysis has been performed within the collaboration convention de with the National Statistic Institute in order to fill up:

- Questionnaire OECD/EUROSTAT/OMS 2017 regarding nonmonetary health statistics;
- Reports necessary for the “2017 Hospitals Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) Survey”, within the Eurostat-OECD PPP Programme.

Data analysis using the DRG database have been performed in response to requests from the Ministry of Health concerning patients with burns, coeliac disease, allergies in children, melanoma, multiple sclerosis, birth deliveries, withdrawal in newborns with addicted mothers, hospital classification indicators and hospital management indicators, as well as for documentation of the Ministry of Health project “Improving the quality and performance of hospital services through cost evaluation and standardization” (CaPeSSCoSt).

Besides the research activities: quarterly indicators for hospital evaluation have been calculated and posted on the website www.drg.ro ; participation in working groups organized by the NSHIF for “Choosing 2019 calculation methodology of weighted case-based rates (WCR) for hospitals reimbursed by DRG financing system” and “Simulating methodology of WCR calculation”; technical and methodological support provided to 110 hospitals per month in average, by phone (70 calls/month in average), e-mail (30 emails/month in average) and 10 requests received by fax and visits to NSPHMPDB. Technical and methodological support have also been provided to the specialized *employees* working in the controlling departments of the General Directory for Monitoring and Control (GDMC) from the NSHIF and district social health insurance funds (DSHIFs), for the purpose of controlling the quality of clinical coding in hospitals. A number of 30 *employees* of GDMC and DSHIFs have been trained.

Database DRG_National has been utilized to elaborate three scientific papers published in NSPHMPDB journal (Annex 1). Using the DRG database, and also professional knowledge and expertise in public health of their personnel, NSPHMPDB have provided consultancy and technical support for central and local authorities, as following:

- participation in working meeting of the Commission for medicine in schools;
- participation in inter-institutional Commission for financing and contracting the services provided by the regional hospitals, starting in 2024 onwards;
- participation in the basic working group for Woman and Child Health;
- participation in working groups for establishing the structure of Regional Emergency Hospitals *Iasi*, Cluj and Craiova;
- providing data for the WHO study “Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health Policy Survey 2018”;
- calculating hospital indicators as requested in order to size right specialty capacities in regional emergency hospitals;
- calculation of management indicators for the purpose of evaluating the hospital managers working in the Ministry of Health network;
- participation in monitoring and evaluation of implementation of the National Health Strategy 2014-2020;
- analysis of the paper elaborated within the project “Strengthening the framework for increase the quality of public services and support local development”, conducted by the Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, in partnership with the National School of Political and Administrative Studies.

NSPHMPDB have also offered expertise to the Ministry of Transportations through participation in the working group for: data collection, analysis and public information of the social costs, within permanent inter-ministerial delegation for road safety; shaping calculation of total costs road accidents and a report on social costs of road accidents in Romania; elaborate a report on hospital episodes and length of stay caused by road accidents at national level in 2016.

Results of research and studies performed by NSPHMPDB are mainly disseminated through scientific articles published in their own journal or in other specialized publications, as well as participation in scientific events. NSPHMPDB scientific activity in 2018 was disseminated by:

- 26 published articles, out of which 23 in ISI journals (Annex 1);
- two book chapters included in professional books published abroad (Cambridge University Press), with international participation (Annex 1);
- the “Country fiche” – included in the report concerning the organization and financing of vaccination services in the European Union (“The Organization and delivery of vaccination services in the European Union”), elaborated for the European Commission by the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (Annex 1);
- 4 active participations (presenting and discussing papers, facilitation, contributing to round tables, etc.) in international conferences, and 9 participations in national conferences (Annex 2).

III. Strengthening the NSPHMPDB institutional capacity for scientific research and development

Continuous strengthening of NSPHMPDB capacity for research and development is the basis for successfully meet our main training and research objectives. Activities performed for this purpose have considered the objectives of NSPHMPDB Development Strategy 2016-2020, respectively:

- Training and professional development of specialized health personnel in order to enlarge the excellence scopes and to increase training and research performance in public health and health management;
- Continue the networking with experts and reference organizations in education and research in Public health and health management, at national and European/international level;
- Provision of technical equipment and amenities necessary for modern training processes and primary and secondary research;
- Improving the visibility of NSPHMPDB training - research - development activities, including by their institutional websites.

The training and professional development for the personnel working in NSPHMPDB in 2018 included the training of 16 *persons* for developing skills and acquire knowledge in new areas, or deepening the existing ones:

- two *persons* have completed the training of trainers course in „Migration and Health” (“Training of Trainers workshop on Migration Health for health professionals, law enforcement officers and social workers”), in order to enlarge the institutional expertise, within the current European concern for population and work force migration;
- three *persons* have completed the training program in health technology assessment („Introduction to Health Technology Assessment and Cost-Effectiveness Analysis Training”), in order to increase the expertise in health technology assessment and economic evaluation;
- one person has completed seven online courses in advance research for systematic literature reviews, in order to develop their skills for this activity;
- one person has completed the program of training and professional development for hospital evaluators, contributing to increasing the institutional capacity in this field;
- nine *persons* have completed professional development courses, training needs for enabling the personnel to implement recent legislative changes made in public administration (public purchasing, human resources, financial accounting, audit, personal data protection and processing).

Other professional development methods for our personnel, besides participation in training courses, were work place training, and participation in national and international conferences and scientific events. In 2018, there were four participations in international conferences and scientific events (besides the working meetings within projects and meetings within professional networks where the NSPHMPDB is affiliated), and 10 participations in national scientific events.



Other kind of activity was the collaboration with other institutions, networks and professional organizations aimed to identify opportunities for future development. The “networking” activity was materialized at first by participation in actions of the networks where NSPHMPDB is a member: ASPHER – the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region; EUPHA – the European Public Health Association; EHMA – the European Health Management Association. Hereby, NSPHMPDB have participated in 2018



in the annual Deans’ and Directors’ Retreat of ASPHER in the European Region, hosted by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Great Britain, between June 19–23, 2018, discussing about: innovative training and learning methods, new data sources and methods used in public health, research, training and development capacity of public health to face challenges of migration, European and international collaboration. We also participated in the meeting of the Public Health Law working

group, where NSPHMPDB is part of, discussing results of the survey regarding current practice of public health schools on this issue and planning future activities, including training/information programs for ASPHER members who want to develop their capacity in this area.

NSPHMPDB participated in the 10th European Public Health Conference on the theme “Winds of change: towards new ways of improving public health in Europe”, held between November 28th - December 1st, 2018 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Three papers elaborated by NSPHMPDB authors were accepted and presented in this conference: “Human Papillomavirus and cancer prevention in Europe – an umbrella review”, “Refusals of vaccination – a mixed methods review”, and “Capacity and utilization of intensive care units in Romania”.

In January 2018, NSPHMPDB participated in the debate organized by the National Institute of Administration with public providers of continuous professional training, resulting in the signed Agreement for setting the National Network of Providers of Training for Public Administration; this initiative comes in response to action 4.4 Facilitate creation of the National Networks of Providers of Training for Public Administration, included in annex 4 of

the Strategy on professional training for public administration 2016-2020, approved by the Government decision no. 650/2016, with further modifications and addendum. Other two new partnerships have been signed in 2018 for applying joint projects: the partnership with the Romanian Society for Supporting Elderly and Alzheimer Patients, and the partnership with the National Institute for Mother and Child Health.

NSPHMPDB is also a member in European / international networks established on specific areas: health scientific guidance, health technology assessment, evidence-based medicine, clinical practice guidelines, all aiming exchange of experience and enlarge the institutional framework in those areas.

- EUSANH - European Science Advisory Network for Health - founded as a result of a research project financed de European Commission through the Seventh Framework Programme of the General Directorate for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), project that was also attended by NSPHMPDB);
- EUnetHTA - European network for Health Technology Assessment;
- JBI - Joanna Briggs Institute (international research and development network from Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences - University Adelaide, South Australia, in care NSPHMPDB is an affiliated center, offering training courses in systematic literature review, and performing protocol reviews and systematic literature reviews);
- GIN - Guidelines International Network.

Actual activities among these have been performed in 2018 within the EUnetHTA network - EUnetHTA Joint Action 3 (see section II. Develop research activities and improve utilization of outcomes), and in the JBI network, where NSPHMPDB experts have accomplished 19 protocol reviews and/or systematic literature reviews.



Other collaborations within actions performed during the year 2018 or in perspective of future projects had as partners: the European Observatory for Health Systems and Policies, the National Agency of Quality Management in Health, the National Institute of Public health, the Romanian National Institute of Statistics, Romanian College of Physicians, Romanian Order of

General Nurses, Midwives and Professional Nurses, Filantropia Federation, Romanian Patriarchy Organization, World Bank Office in Romania, Romanian office of the International Organization for Migration, National Institute for Mother and Child Health “Alessandrescu-Rusescu”. NSPHMPDB has also been among the signatories of the Chart for 2035 – Romania's first Tobacco-Free Generation, and has participated in the actions for population awareness on the risk of tuberculosis within the „Stop TB!” Romanian Partnership

Besides collaborations with other institutions, partnerships, affiliation in international organizations, publications and participation in scientific events, visibility of NSPHMPDB training - research - development is provided through institutional websites <http://www.snspms.ro/>, <https://www.perfmed.ro/>, <http://www.drg.ro/>, as well as the scientific publication edited by NSPHMPDB: the *Management in Health* journal (<http://www.managementinhealth.com>). This is a quarterly, bilingual publication and provides specialized information in general management and health management. “Management in Health” Journal is in B+ category with score recognition by the National Council of Scientific Research in High Education, and it is indexed in *five* international data basis: Google Scholar, Index Copernicus, DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals), SCOPUS and Elsevier, and it is in course of evaluation ISI Thompson. The journal is also credited by the Romanian College of Physicians with 5 CME credits. The process of registration of “Management in Health” journal in PubMed database of NCBI (National Center for Bio-technology Information) has continued in 2018.



The four volumes published in 2018 encompass 28 original articles. Three articles are written by NSPHMPDB authors or co-authors, 13 articles are written by authors from abroad, and the four interviews – section included in each number of the journal, addressed to the following personalities in public health and health management from Romania and abroad: Mr. Mircea Nicușor TIMOFTE - President of the Romanian Order of General Nurses, Midwives and Professional Nurses; Prof. Dr. Ramunė KALĖDIENĖ - Dean of the Public Health Faculty, head of the Health Management Department, Medical Academy, Lithuanian University of Medical Sciences; Prof. Karoleina LYUBOMIROVA, - Vice-dean for international cooperation of the Public Health Department, University of Medicine from Sofia, Bulgaria; Prof. Dr. Alexandru RAFILA, Member in the WHO Executive Committee, President of the Romanian Society for Microbiology (RO-SRM).

Annex 1

Publications, year 2018

No.	Paper title	Authors	Journal	Impact Factor ISI/SSCI	Other categories CNCISIS / BDI
Printed Articles					
1	'Are The Times A-Changin'? Trends in adolescent substance use in Europe.	Kraus L, Seitz NN, Piontek D, Molinaro S, Siciliano V, Guttormsson U, Arpa S, Monshouwer K, Leifman H, Vicente J, Griffiths P, Clancy L, Feijão F, Florescu S , Lambrecht P, Nociar A, Raitasalo K, Spilka S, Vyshinskiy K, Hibell B.	<i>Addiction</i> . 2018 Jul;113(7):1317-1332. doi: 10.1111/add.14201. Epub 2018 Apr 13. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29484751	6.048	
2	The associations between psychotic experiences and substance use and substance use disorders: findings from the World Health Organization World Mental Health surveys.	Degenhardt L, Saha S, Lim CCW, Aguilar-Gaxiola S, Al-Hamzawi A, Alonso J, Andrade LH, Bromet EJ, Bruffaerts R, Caldas-de-Almeida JM, de Giroleamo G, Florescu S , Gureje O, Haro JM, Karam EG, Karam G, Kovess-Masfety V, Lee S, Lepine JP, Makanjuola V, Medina-Mora ME, Mneimneh Z, Navarro-Mateu F, Piazza M, Posada-Villa J, Sampson NA, Scott KM, Stagnaro JC, Ten Have M, Kendler KS, Kessler RC, McGrath JJ; WHO World Mental Health Survey Collaborators.	<i>Addiction</i> . 2018 May;113(5):924-934. doi: 10.1111/add.14145. Epub 2018 Feb 21. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29284197	6.048	
3	Complementary and alternative medicine contacts by persons with mental disorders in 25 countries: Results from the World Mental Health Surveys.	de Jonge, P., Wardenaar, K., Hoenders, H.J.R., Evans-Lacko, S., Kovess-Masfety, S., Aguilar-Gaxiola, S., Al-Hamzawi, A., Alonso, J., Andrade, L.H., Benjet, C., Bromet, E., Bruffaerts, R., Bunting, B., Caldas-de-Almeida, J.M., Dinolova, R., Florescu, S. , de Giroleamo, G., Gureje, O., Haro, J.M., Hu, C., Huang, Y., Karam, E.G., Karam, G., Lee, S., Lépine, J.P., Levinson, D., Makanjuola, V., Navarro-Mateu, F., Pennell, B.E., Posada-Villa, J., Scott, K., Tachimori, H., Williams, D., Wojtyniak, B., Kessler, R.C., Thornicroft, G., on behalf of the WHO World Mental Health Survey Collaborators.	<i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> . 2018 Dec;27(6):552-567. doi: 10.1017/S2045796017000774. Epub 2017 Dec 28. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29283080	5.684	
4	The cross-national structure of mental	de Jonge P, Wardenaar KJ, Lim CCW, Aguilar-Gaxiola S,	<i>Psychological Medicine</i> . 2018 Sep;48(12):2073-	5.475	

	disorders: results from the World Mental Health Surveys.	Alonso J, Andrade LH, Bunting B, Chatterji S, Ciutan M , Gureje O, Karam EG, Lee S, Medina-Mora ME, Moskalewicz J, Navarro-Mateu F, Pennell BE, Piazza M, Posada-Villa J, Torres Y, Kessler RC, Scott K.	2084. doi: 10.1017/S0033291717003610. Epub 2017 Dec 19. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29254513		
5	Socio-economic variations in the mental health treatment gap for people with anxiety, mood, and substance use disorders: Results from the WHO World Mental Health (WMH) Surveys.	Evans-Lacko, S., Aguilar-Gaxiola, S., Al-Hamzawi, A., Alonso, J., Benjet, C., Bruffaerts, R., Chiu, W.T., Florescu, S. , de Girolamo, G., Gureje, O., Haro, J. M., He, Y., Hu, C., Karam, E. G., Kawakami, N., Lee, S., Lund, C., Kovess-Masfety, V., Levinson, D., Navarro-Mateu, F., Pennell, B.E., Sampson, N.A., Scott, K.M., Tachimori, H., ten Have, M., Viana, M.C., Williams, D.R., Wojtyniak, B.J., Zarkov, Z., Kessler, R.C., Chatterji, S., Thornicroft, G., on behalf of the WHO World Mental Health Survey Collaborators.	<i>Psychological Medicine</i> . 2018 Jul;48(9):1560-1571. doi: 10.1017/S0033291717003336. Epub 2017 Nov 27. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29173244	5.475	
6	Recovery from DSM-IV post-traumatic stress disorder in the WHO World Mental Health surveys.	Rosellini, A.J., Liu, H., Petukhova, M., Sampson, N., Aguilar-Gaxiola, S., Alonso, J., Borges, G., Bruffaerts, R., Bromet, E.J., de Girolamo, G., de Jonge, P., Fayyad, J., Florescu, S. , Gureje, O., Haro, J.M., Hinkov, H., Karam, E.G., Kawakami, N., Koenen, K.C., Lee, S., Lepine, J.P., Levinson, D., Navarro-Mateu, F., Oladeji, B., O'Neill, S., Pennell, B.E., Piazza, M., Posada-Villa, J., Scott, K., Stein, D.J., Torres, Y., Viana, M.C., Zaslavsky, A.M, Kessler, R.C., on behalf of the WHO World Mental Health Survey Collaborators (2017).	<i>Psychological Medicine</i> , 2018 Feb;48(3):437-450. doi: 10.1017/S0033291717001817. Epub 2017 Jul 19. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28720167	5.475	
7	Treatment Gap for Anxiety Disorders is Global: Results of the World Mental Health Surveys in 21 countries.	Alonso, J., Liu, Z., Evans-Lacko, S., Sadikova, E., Sampson, N., Chatterji, S., Abdulmalik, J., Aguilar-Gaxiola, S., Al-Hamzawi, A., Andrade, L.H., Bruffaerts, R., Cardoso, G., Cia, A., Florescu, S. , de Girolamo, G., Gureje, O., Haro, J.M., He, Y., de Jonge, P., Karam, E.G., Kawakami, N., Kovess-Masfety, V., Lee, S., Levinson, D., Medina-Mora, M.E., Navarro-Mateu, F., Pennell, B.E., Piazza, M., Posada-Villa, J., ten Have, M., Zarkov, Z., Kessler, R.C., Thornicroft, G., on behalf of the WHO World	<i>Depression and Anxiety</i> . 2018 Mar;35(3):195-208. doi: 10.1002/da.22711. Epub 2018 Jan 22. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29356216	5.043	

		Mental Health Survey Collaborators.			
8	Psychotic experiences and religiosity: Data from the WHO World Mental Health Surveys.	Kovess-Masfety, V., Saha, S., Lim, C.C.W., Aguilar-Gaxiola, S., Al-Hamzawi, A., Alonso, J., Borges, G., de Giroleamo, G., de Jonge, P., Demyttenaere, K., Florescu, S. , Haro, J.M., Hu, C., Karam, E.G., Kawakami, N., Lee, S., Lepine, J.P., Navarro-Mateu, F., Stagnaro, J.C., ten Have, M., Viana, M.C., Kessler, R.C., McGrath, J.J., on behalf of the WHO World Mental Health Survey Collaborators	<i>Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica</i> . 2018 Apr;137(4):306-315. doi: 10.1111/acps.12859. Epub 2018 Feb 16. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29453789	4.984	
9	Prior Mental Disorders and Subsequent Onset of Chronic Back or Neck Pain: Findings From 19 Countries.	Viana, M.C., Lim, C.C.W., Pereira, F.G., Aguilar-Gaxiola, S., Alonso, J., Bruffaerts, R., de Jonge, P., Caldas-de-Almeida, J.M., O'Neill, S.M., Stein, D.J., Al-Hamzawi, A., Benjet, C., Cardoso, G., Florescu, S. , de Giroleamo, G., Haro, J.M., Hu, C., Kovess-Masfety, V., Levinson, D., Nakane, Y., Piazza, M., Posada-Villa, J., Rabczenko, D., Kessler, R.C., Scott, K.	<i>The Journal of Pain</i> . 2018 Jan;19(1):99-110. doi: 10.1016/j.jpain.2017.08.011. Epub 2017 Oct 12. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29031785	4.859	
10	Frailty at Population Level in Europe: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis	Mark O Donovan, Duygu Sezgin, Lucia Galluzzo, Ángel Rodríguez Laso, Johan H.A. Van der Heyden, Anette Hylen Ranhoff, Maria Lamprini Koula, Mirela Strandzheva, Marius Ciutan , Ana Maria Carriazo, Luz López Samaniego, Laure Carcaillon-Bentata, Siobhan Kennelly, Aaron Liew, Rónán O'Caomh	<i>Age and Ageing</i> , Volume 47, Issue suppl_5, 1 September 2018, Pages v1-v12, https://academic.oup.com/ageing/article/47/suppl_5/v1/5099418	4.013	
11	The association between psychotic experiences and health-related quality of life: a cross-national analysis based on World Mental Health Surveys.	Alonso, J., Saha, S., Lim, C.C.W., Aguilar-Gaxiola, S., Al-Hamzawi, A., Benjet, C., Bromet, E.J., Degenhardt, L., De Giroleamo, G., Esan, O., Florescu, S. , Gureje, O., Haro, J.M., Hu, C.Y., Karam, E.G., Karam, G., Kovess-Masfety, V., Lepine, J.P., Lee, S., Mneimneh, Z., Navarro-Mateu, F., Posada-Villa, J., Sampson, N., Scott, K.M., Stagnaro, J.C., Ten Have, M., Viana, M.C., Kessler, R.C., McGrath, J. J.	<i>Schizophrenia Research</i> . 2018 Nov;201:46-53. doi: 10.1016/j.schres.2018.04.044. Epub 2018 May 16. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29778294	3.958	
12	Suicidal thoughts and behaviors among college students and same-aged peers: results from the World Health Organization World Mental Health Surveys.	Mortier P, Auerbach RP, Alonso J, Axinn WG, Cuijpers P, Ebert DD, Green JG, Hwang I, Kessler RC, Liu H, Nock MK, Pinder-Amaker S, Sampson NA, Zaslavsky AM, Abdulmalik J, Aguilar-Gaxiola S, Al-Hamzawi A, Benjet C, Demyttenaere K, Florescu S , De Giroleamo G, Gureje O, Haro JM, Hu C,	<i>Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology</i> . 2018 Mar;53(3):279-288. doi: 10.1007/s00127-018-1481-6. Epub 2018 Jan 16. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29340781	2.918	

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13	Civilians in World War II and DSM-IV mental disorders: results from the World Mental Health Survey Initiative.	Frounfelker R., Gilman SE., Betancourt TS., Aguilar-Gaxiola S., Alonso J, Bromet EJ., Bruffaerts R., de Giroleamo G., Gluzman S., Gureje O., Karam EG., Lee S., Lépine JP., Ono Y., Pennell BE., Popovici DG. , Ten Have M., Kessler RC; WHO World Mental Health Survey Collaborators.	<i>Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology</i> . 2018 Feb;53(2):207-219. doi: 10.1007/s00127-017-1452-3. Epub 2017 Nov 8. PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29119266	2.918	
14	Gender differences in common mental disorders: a comparison of social risk factors across four European welfare regimes	Sarah Van de Velde, Anders Boyd, Gemma Villagut, Jordi Alonso, Ronny Bruffaerts, Ron De Graaf, Silvia Florescu , Josep Haro, Viviane Kovess-Masfety	<i>European Journal of Public Health</i> , cky240, https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cky240 Published: 28 November 2018 https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/eurpub/cky240/5214347	2.782	
15	Human Papillomavirus and cancer prevention in Europe – an umbrella review	S Florescu, SG Scintee, C Mihăescu Pinția, CC Sasu, M Ciutan, C Vlădescu	<i>European Journal of Public Health</i> , Volume 28, Issue suppl_4, 1 November 2018, cky218.142, https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cky218.142 Published: 21 November 2018 https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/article/28/suppl_4/cky218.142/5192669	2.782	
16	Capacity and utilization of intensive care units in Romania	M Ciutan, S Florescu, SG Scintee, M Dosius, C Vlădescu	<i>European Journal of Public Health</i> , Volume 28, Issue suppl_4, 1 November 2018, cky214.259, https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cky214.259 Published: 21 November 2018 https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/article/28/suppl_4/cky214.259/5186984	2.782	
17	Refusals of vaccination – a mixed methods review	S Florescu, C Mihăescu Pinția, CC Sasu, M Ciutan, SG Scintee, DG Popovici, C Vlădescu	<i>European Journal of Public Health</i> , Volume 28, Issue suppl_4, 1 November 2018, cky218.023, https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cky218.023 Published: 21 November 2018 https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/article/28/suppl_4/cky218.023/5186984	2.782	

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18	The unexpected outcomes of the closure of 67 inpatient care facilities in 2011 in Romania	Scintee SG, Vlădescu C, Sagan A, Hernández-Quevedo C	<i>Health Policy.</i> 122 (2018) 1161–1164 https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0168851018304159?via%3Dihub	2.293	
19	Prevalence of frailty at population level in European ADVANTAGE Joint Action Member States: a systematic review and meta-analysis.	Rónán O’Caoimh, Lucia Galluzzo, Ángel Rodríguez-Laso, Johan Van der Heyden, Anette Hysten Ranhoff, Maria Lamprini-Koula, Marius Ciutan, Luz López Samaniego, Laure Carcaillon-Bentata, Siobhán Kennelly, Aaron Liew	<i>Ann Ist Super Sanita.</i> 2018 Jul-Sep;54(3):226-238. doi: 10.4415/ANN_18_03_10 PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30284550	1.158	
20	Incidence of frailty: a systematic review of scientific literature from a public health perspective	Lucia Galluzzo, Rónán O’Caoimh, Ángel Rodríguez-Laso, Nathalie Beltzer, Anette Hysten Ranhoff, Johan Van der Heyden, Maria Lamprini-Koula, Marius Ciutan, Luz López Samaniego and Aaron Liew	<i>Ann Ist Super Sanita.</i> 2018 Jul-Sep;54(3):239-245. doi: 10.4415/ANN_18_03_11 PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30284551	1.158	
21	Population screening, monitoring and surveillance for frailty: three systematic reviews and a grey literature review	Ángel Rodríguez-Laso, Rónán O’Caoimh, Lucia Galluzzo, Laure Carcaillon-Bentata, Nathalie Beltzer, Jurate Macijauskiene, Olatz Albaina Bacaicoa, Marius Ciutan, Anne Hendry, Luz López-Samaniego	<i>Ann Ist Super Sanita.</i> 2018 Jul-Sep;54(3):253-262. doi: 10.4415/ANN_18_03_13 PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30284553	1.158	
22	Hospitalization by the frequently cancers in adults over 18 years, in public hospitals in Romania	Carmen Sasu, Marius Ciutan, Simona Muşat	<i>Management in Health</i> XXII/3/2018; pp. 21-29		BDI CNCSIS
23	Tumor hospitalization episodes in 0-18 years old children, geographical and temporal distribution in Romania, in the last 5 years	Carmen Sasu, Marius Ciutan, Simona Muşat	<i>Management in Health</i> XXII/2/2018; pp. 9-17		BDI CNCSIS
24	Evolution of the hospitalization episodes in adults with cancer aged 18+, in public Romanian hospitals between 2013-2017	Carmen Sasu, Marius Ciutan, Simona Muşat	<i>Management in Health</i> XXII/1/2018; pp. 18-25		BDI CNCSIS
Articles published on line					
25	Concordance between the diagnostic guidelines for alcohol and cannabis use disorders in the draft ICD-11 and other classification systems: Analysis of data from the WHO's World	Degenhardt L, Bharat C, Bruno R, Glantz MD, Sampson NA, Aguilar-Gaxiola S, Alonso J, Andrade LH, Bunting B, Caldas-de-Almeida JM, Cia AH, Gureje O, Karam EG, Khalaf M, McGrath J, Moskalewicz J, Lee S, Mneimneh Z, Navarro-Mateu	<i>Addiction.</i> 2018 Oct 29. doi: 10.1111/add.14482. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30370636	6.048	

	Mental Health Surveys	F, Sasu CC , Scott K, Torres Y, Poznyak V, Chatterji S, Kessler RC; WHO World Mental Health Survey Collaborators.			
26	Psychotic experiences and general medical conditions: a cross-national analysis based on 28 002 respondents from 16 countries in the WHO World Mental Health Surveys.	Scott KM, Saha S, Lim CCW, Aguilar-Gaxiola S, Al-Hamzawi A, Alonso J, Benjet C, Bromet EJ, Bruffaerts R, Caldas-de-Almeida JM, de Girolamo G, de Jonge P, Degenhardt L, Florescu S , Gureje O, Haro JM, Hu C, Karam EG, Kovess-Masfety V, Lee S, Lepine JP, Mneimneh Z, Navarro-Mateu F, Piazza M, Posada-Villa J, Sampson NA, Stagnaro JC, Kessler RC, McGrath JJ.	<i>Psychological Medicine</i> . 2018 Feb 26:1-10. doi: 10.1017/S0033291718000363. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed Abstract: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29478433	5.475	

Books/ Book chapters/ Reports

No.	Book Title / Chapter title carte/ Report	Authors	Editor/ Coordinator	Publishing house/ publishing website
1	Psychotic Experiences (pp. 286-296). In Mental Disorders Around the World: Facts and Figures from the WHO World Mental Health Surveys	McGrath, J.J., Saha, S., Lim, C.C.W., Gureje, O., Florescu, S.	Edited by: K.M Scott, P. de Jonge, D.J. Stein, R.C Kessler (Eds.)	Cambridge University Press. 2018
2	Natural and human made disasters (pp. 226-239). In Trauma and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	Evelyn J. Bromet, Silvia Florescu , Giovanni de Girolamo, Fernando Navarro-Mateu, Elie G. Karam	Edited by: Evelyn J. Bromet, Stony Brook, Elie G. Karam, Karestan C. Koenen, Dan J. Stein (Eds.)	Cambridge University Press. 2018
3	Country fiche for Romania. In The Organization and delivery of vaccination services in the European Union. Prepared for the European Commission by The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies	Author of Country fiche for Romania: Silvia Gabriela Scintee	Edited by: Bernd Rechel, Erica Richardson, Martin McKee	© World Health Organization 2018 (acting as the host Organization for, and secretariat of, the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies) https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/overview_en

Annex 2

Participation in scientific events, in 2018

Participation in international events

No.	Activity	Authors/ Participants	Event	Organizers	Date and place
1	”Human Papillomavirus and cancer prevention in Europe – an umbrella review”, poster presentation	S Florescu, SG Scintee, C Mihăescu Pinția, CC Sasu, M Ciutan, C Vlădescu	11 th European Public Health Conference “Winds of change: towards new ways of improving public health in Europe”. Poster display: Infectious diseases, preparedness and vaccines	EUPHA	November 28 th - December 1 st , 2018 Ljubljana, Slovenia
2	“Capacity and utilization of intensive care units in Romania”, poster presentation	M Ciutan, S Florescu, SG Scintee, M Dosius, C Vlădescu	11 th European Public Health Conference “Winds of change: towards new ways of improving public health in Europe”. Poster walk: Health services research and hospital care	EUPHA	November 28 th - December 1 st , 2018 Ljubljana, Slovenia
3	“Refusals of vaccination – a mixed methods review”, poster presentation	S Florescu, C Mihăescu Pinția, CC Sasu, M Ciutan, SG Scintee, C Vlădescu	11 th European Public Health Conference “Winds of change: towards new ways of improving public health in Europe”. Poster display: European and global health issues	EUPHA	November 28 th - December 1 st , 2018 Ljubljana, Slovenia
4	Discussing the paper: “The 2017 reform of the hospital sector in Poland—the challenge of consistent design” K. Dubas-Jakóbczyk, I. Kowalska-Bobko, C. Sowada	Silvia Gabriela Scintee	The Health Systems and Policy Monitor annual meeting	European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies	October 11 -12, 2018 Krakow, Poland

Participation in national events

No.	Activity	Authors/ Participants	Event	Organizers	Date and place
1	Participation with the paper: “Role of the family doctor in case management of the frail elderly, in Romania”	Mihai-Viorel Zamfir, Ileana Botezat-Antonescu, Marius Ciutan , Lavinia Panait , Elena Bozdog, Radu Pîrlog	Family Medicine Regional Conference “Dr. Mircea Iorga Medical Days” 2018, Section: Pathology in the elderly	The Family Doctor Association Bucharest-Ilfov (AMFB), and the Family Doctors Patronage Bucharest - Ilfov	December 7 th – 9 th , 2018, Bucharest
2	Moderator of the session: “Health and finance, an indispensable partnership: healthcare as an investment, sustainability of health funding. Getting serious about prevention”	Cristian Vlădescu	Aspen Healthcare Forum: “Healthcare as an investment, from cost to social efficiency”	Aspen Institute Romania, the Romanian Ministry of Health	October 23 rd , 2018, Bucharest
3	Participation cu paper: “Advantage JA Grant: Premise for approaching frailty in elderly patients with cognitive impairment”	Mihai-Viorel Zamfir, Ileana Botezat-Antonescu, Marius Ciutan , Lavinia Panait , Elena Bozdog, Radu Pîrlog	National Congress of Geriatrics and Gerontology 2018, Section: Standards of care for residential services	Romanian Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics, “Ana Aslan” National Institute of Gerontology and Geriatrics	October 18 th -21 st , 2018, Bucharest
4	Presenting the paper: “Determining the hospital competence level”	Adina Geană	National Conference of Pharmacoconomics and Health Management, 5 th Edition	ISPOR Romania, Romanian Society of Pharmacoconomics, University of medicine and Pharmacy Târgu Mureș, Sapientia University	October 11-14, 2018, Poiana Brașov
5	Contribution at the session: “Your health is worth it. Collaborative efforts to elaborate a short list of possible solutions for financing health and medical innovation in Romania”	Cristian Vlădescu	Debate “Resources for Health”	Local American Working Group, The Economist Intelligence Unit	June 18, 2018, Bucharest
6	Presenting the paper: “Benefits of health data for better public policies”	Cristian Vlădescu	Conference “Health in digital society. How digital tools may contribute in improvement of health system performance in Romania”	American Chamber of Commerce in Romania, US Commercial Service	June 11, 2018, Bucharest
7	Guest at the Round Table “Importance of early diagnostic and treatment; Socio-economic impact of	Cristian Vlădescu	Launching of the European campaign “Don’t Delay, Connect Today!”	Romanian League against Rheumatism, Romanian Society of Rheumatology, European League	April 19, 2018, Bucharest

	rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases”			against Rheumatism (EULAR)	
8	Presenting the paper: “Professional Development, a basic pillar in the strategy for health services development”	Adina Geană	National Conference of Modern Medical Management in Public Hospitals Edition XXIII, Risk Management in Patients	People and Companies, National Authority of Quality Management in Health	April 13 – 15 th , 2018, Poiana Braşov
9	Presenting the paper: “Assessing patient quality of life”	Constanța Mihăescu-Pinția	Work-shop: “Improving the quality of life for patients in hospitals: assessment and perspectives”	Association of Medical Services Evaluators	March 30, 2018, Buzău