

# The first meeting of the experts on healthcare in 2023



Today, February 7, 2023, this year's first meeting of experts within the working groups for healthcare from both banks of the Nistru River was held at the Tiraspol office of the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Moldova.

The Chisinau delegation was led by Dragoş Guţu, General Director of the Medicines and Medical Devices Agency (MMDA), with the participation of representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Emergency Medicine Institute and the Reintegration Policies Bureau.

Chisinau proposed for discussion a wide range of topics of utmost importance aimed at health protection and the provision of quality medical services to residents on both banks of the Nistru River.

The interlocutors addressed the recent humanitarian case successfully resolved as a result of the efficient and operative involvement of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova and the Ministry of Health, which, through the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations and the Emergency Medicine Institute, coordinated prompt measures to provide qualified medical assistance in the process of transporting home a citizen of the Republic of Moldova from the Transnistrian region of the country, who had been hospitalized in Poland after a traffic accident. The patient was transported by the SMURD crew, benefiting from all the necessary and highly qualified assistance of specialized specialists from the Republic of Moldova.

As concerns the aspects of importing medicines by economic agents from the Transnistrian region, the head of the working group from Chisinau drew attention to statistical data which demonstrate the positive dynamics of the process and the lack of impediments or difficulties in issuing import authorizations. Thus, from the end of February 2022 until now, the Medicines Commission of MMDA has issued 1.956 import

authorizations, of which 551 were for unregistered medicines. Taking over the requests of the mentioned economic agents, the Commission showed openness and receptivity in examining them on a priority basis.

With reference to the subject of the treatment of children diagnosed with cerebral palsy, the representatives of the Ministry of Health mentioned the readiness of receiving and accommodating children, including from the Transnistrian region, in medical institutions and specialized rehabilitation centers in the Republic of Moldova, with access to highly qualified treatment. We mention that currently, in the Transnistrian region, around 500 children diagnosed with this disease are registered, of which 62 are documented with national documents. Under these conditions, the Chisinau authorities will identify the mechanism to ensure the provision of highly qualified specialized services for the treatment of this category of children.

The general director of MMDA informed about a series of initiatives, which the state authorities plan to implement in the pharmaceutical field, in this case, the collection and destruction of waste of used and unused/expired medicines, including at the level of rural localities, encouraging compliance with the legal rigors to be approved, intended to ensure the protection of the public health, while also contributing to the protection of the environment.

The experts expressed their readiness to maintain a constant dialogue on aspects of healthcare and the pharmaceutical field, in the interests of the residents on both banks of the Nistru River.

