

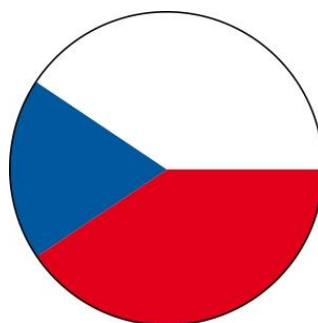


STUDY SUPPORT

MEDICAL PART



Czech Republic





II. HEALTH CARE

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

✓ TYPE OF HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

In the Czech Republic, the health care of the population is an important part of state policy and its provision is guaranteed by the Constitution of the Czech Republic. It includes the **Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms**, which states: "Everyone has the right to health protection." This constitutional right for its inhabitants is fulfilled by the Czech Republic through a public health system, which operates under Act 48/1997 Coll. (Public Health Insurance Act).

The health care system in the Czech Republic is not unique in Europe and is generally ranked among the models of the **European insurance system** based on the **principle of solidarity**. The Czech health system is built on three entities, which are: health insurance payers, health insurance companies and healthcare providers.

✓ THE SUBJECTS OF THE HEALTH SYSTEM

The premium is set at 13.5%. For employees, the employer pays 9% and the employee contributes 4.5% of the gross wage. Self-employed persons pay a full 13.5% of their gross profits each year for the past year. For 2017, the minimum deposit amount is CZK 1 906. The third possible payer of health insurance in the Czech Republic is the state. It shall take over the payment obligation in the following cases: children and students under 26, pensioners, women on maternity leave, the unemployed, people in social need and prisoners.

✓ PHILOSOPHY / IDEA / PRINCIPLES

Health insurance payments are paid to health insurance funds. In the Czech Republic we currently have 9 health insurance companies.

✓ FINANCING SYSTEM

Healthcare providers (both outpatient and inpatient care facilities) are paid from insurance funds. The insurance providers conclude a contract on the manner and amount of reimbursement for the services provided so as to ensure sufficient quality care.

✓ RANGE OF PROVIDED HEALTH CARE

Every insured person in the Czech Republic has the right to free health care. **The range of this care includes:** outpatient and institutional care, ambulance and emergency medical care with payment of the regulatory fee from the patient 90CZK. **Health care that is not covered by health insurance** must be covered by the patient himself: above standard medical and nursing activities and some performances that are not of a purely therapeutic nature (various medical testimonials, certificates, statements, etc.)



2. THE TERMS OF HEALTH, DISEASE, PREVENTION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

✓ VALUE ORIENTATION OF THE CZECH POPULATION

Among the most valued principles in the Czech society are **family, health, healthy environment, life satisfaction and education.**

✓ PERCEPTION OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS

Despite the fact that the citizens of the Czech Republic value health as one of the highest, it is often perceived as a matter of course - especially for the younger generation. Health care and prevention is neglected, and initiative to maintain health is not sufficient - some patients still have the tendency to transfer responsibility for illness to healthcare professionals. Thanks to the health education and health programs of the Czech Republic, however, people are more active with regard to the care of their health.

✓ PREVENTION SYSTEM IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Prevention in the Czech Republic includes a relatively sophisticated system of preventive examinations, which are covered by health insurance. This system is based on the early detection of serious illnesses in the early stages that are not as costly as ill-treated and late-discovered cases. In addition to **preventive care during pregnancy and childhood**, the preventive system also includes **adult preventive examinations**. The insurance company pays check -ups once every two years.



3. ORGANIZATION OF THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

✓ TYPES OF HEALTH CARE

There are **both state and non-state health facilities** in the Czech Republic. All of these facilities have, as a rule, a contract for the provision and reimbursement of health care with health insurance companies and can therefore provide health care without direct reimbursement.

✓ CHARACTERISTICS

Healthcare services in the Czech Republic are provided by a system of state and non-state health facilities. This system consists of: **Outpatient primary facilities** – that means **practitioners**. Patients can choose a GP and then register with them. Registration obliges the physician to provide ongoing care for the patient (basic care including visiting services). **Outpatient professional care**. The specialist in the Czech Republic can be visited even without the recommendation of a physician - general practitioner. **Institutional care**. If the nature of the illness requires, a primary care physician or an outpatient specialist recommends hospitalization in a hospital medical facility. About the type of health care facility, the patient is informed and has the option of consulting and choosing a health care facility with regard to the performance or care required by the patient. **Emergency and rescue service** is provided even in the event of a sudden illness and accident during the off-hours or the absence of the attending physician. Emergency care has a character by location in the Czech Republic.



Pharmacy services provide medicines and medical devices in the Czech Republic on the basis of a medical prescription (medicines covered by insurance or with additional payment) and without it (the patient pays himself). **Stomatological treatments.** It is the duty of a doctor to offer the patient a treatment that is fully covered by public health insurance. All of these performances are included in the reimbursement notice valid for the relevant period.



4. HOME CARE

✓ CHARACTERISTICS OF HOME CARE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Since 1990, home care has been an integral part of the health and social care system in the Czech Republic. Every insured person has the right to home care. It is covered by health insurance. Home care provides the client with the necessary tasks in the client's own social environment. It combines health, social and laic care.

✓ TASKS OF HOME CARE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The maximum range of home care is 3 times a day for 1 hour. The services provided are for example: monitoring of physiological functions, taking of biological material, treatment of skin defects, drug administration, medication, insulin training, self-service training, clyster, urethral catheter care, stoma treatment, etc.



✓ CONTENT OF HOME CARE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Some agencies in the Czech Republic also offer care services that include personal hygiene assistance, food provision, food assistance etc. These services are social, paid by the client himself or by the social contribution he receives from the state.

✓ HOSPICE HOME CARE

Recently, there is a growing need for home hospice care (there are 15 in the Czech Republic). This service is intended for incurably ill individuals of any age. Care includes, on the one hand, health services according to the needs and current health of the patient, as well as psychosocial services. The services concern both the patient, but also the family, including care after the death of an individual. This service is the only one providing specialized palliative care to children. Home hospice care is partially covered by the client or his family.

5. AVAILABILITY OF HEALTH CARE

✓ TIME AVAILABILITY

The time and local availability of health care in the Czech Republic is determined by **the legal norm**. Every insured citizen of the Czech Republic has **guaranteed health care**. The law sets the time limits for the provision of medical services. In the case of acute services, the absolute priority depending on the state of health is the rule.



✓ LOCAL / GEOGRAPHIC ACCESSIBILITY

The law establishes the **maximum travel time** from the place of residence of the patient to ambulance specialists and health facilities, which guarantees the availability of individual health services to every citizen.

✓ FINANCIAL AVAILABILITY

(SEE HEALTHCARE FINANCING)

In addition, the law establishes a maximum time limit for scheduled (non-acute) medical procedures and examinations:

- hip replacement: within 52 weeks
- cataract surgery: within 30 weeks
- endoscopic examination: within 4 weeks
- magnetic resonance imaging: within 5 weeks

6. NURSING CARE SYSTEM IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

✓ THE POSITION OF THE NURSING PROFESSION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Nursing is a separate scientific discipline focused on active search and meeting the needs of both healthy and ill. **Nursing care** is a set of professional activities aimed at preventing, sustaining, supporting and restoring the health of individuals, families and people with a common background. It also includes care for incurably ill. A characteristic feature of the current nursing is the effort to provide **individualized care based on the satisfaction of an individual's needs** in relation to health, or needs arising at the time of illness.



Nursing care is provided by **a nursing team** composed of health professionals of different levels of qualification. Their competencies are defined according to the level of education and specialization.

✓ THE CURRENT CONCEPT OF NURSING CARE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The current concept in the Czech Republic is aimed at using **the nursing process method** according to NANDA. But we are still at the beginning of a complex work in the nursing process. The nursing process is included in teaching for medical students of higher education institutions and universities.

✓ SYSTEMS OF PROVIDING NURSING CARE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

In most establishments, nursing care is provided through **a group care system** where nurses take care of a group of patients during the shift. Some establishments also use **the system of "primary nurses"** or "key staff". This nurse is responsible for planning the nursing process for the patient, but also for other patients. **The entire nursing team** is involved in **the planned nursing process**. This system is rather used in institutions with longer patient stays. For each patient, medical and nursing documentation is available. It is in written form and partly in electronic form as well. Each record in the documentation shall be signed by the person who made it.



7. SPIRITUAL CARE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

✓ CHARACTERISTICS AND STARTING POINTS OF SPIRITUAL HEALTH CARE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Medical and nursing care in the Czech Republic is based on a **holistic approach** to man. He is perceived not only at his physical, mental and social level of being, but also spiritual with the efforts to satisfy the needs of patients.

✓ LEGISLATION

The provision of spiritual services is valid in the Czech Republic by the adoption of Act No. 3/2002 Coll., On Churches and Religious Societies and is also supported by the adopted European Standards for Health Chaplain. Spiritual work in hospitals is further included in Act No. 273/2011 Coll., on health services, which states that the patient has the right to receive spiritual care in a medical facility and has the right to receive support from spiritual churches and religious societies, which are registered in the Czech Republic.

✓ SPECIFIC CONTENT OF SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS CARE

Most hospitals in the Czech Republic provide spiritual services mediated if requested and some facilities have their own chapels. In the Czech Republic, there are also organizations of hospital chaplains - professionally trained clergy who provide spiritual care not only to patients but also to hospital staff.

8. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF A PATIENT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

✓ RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF INSURED PERSONS

Patients' rights and duties in the Czech Republic are legislatively enshrined in **the Health Services Act 372/2011Sb.**

The patient has the right to receive or reject the health services provided, the right to provide professional health services, the right to respect, dignity, respect for privacy and the right to freedom of choice of the provider, the right to consult services of another provider, the right to information on the internal order of the healthcare facility provided by the health care provider, the right of minors to the continuous presence of the legal representative, persons appointed by the legal representative and others.

✓ PATIENTS' RIGHTS

Patients have the right to freely accept or refuse health services provided, the right to professional health services, the right to respect, dignity, and privacy, the right to freely choose a provider, the right to consult other services, the right to information about the internal order of healthcare facilities, the right of minors to the continuous presence of a legal guardian or persons appointed by the legal representative, and others.

✓ OBLIGATIONS OF PATIENTS

The patient is required to follow the proposed treatment if he agrees. The patient is required to adhere to the internal regulations of the particular medical facility. The patient is obliged to reimburse the provider for the cost of the provided services not paid or partially covered by public insurance.



The patient is required to inform the health practitioner of his / her state of health, including infectious diseases. The patient must not use alcohol or other addictive substances in a healthcare facility.

9. DAILY REGIME IN HOSPITALS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

✓ GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SPECIFICS OF THE INCOME / STAY AND THE RELEASE OF THE PATIENT FROM THE INSTITUTIONAL CARE

After admitting to the bed-care facility in the Czech Republic, the patient is placed in the room. He is given a bed and a bedside table for personal belongings. He is familiar with the organization of the department and the nursing unit. In state healthcare facilities, standard care is usually provided in double to triple rooms. Sanitary facilities are usually part of the room and in some cases the bathroom and toilets are centrally located in the corridor. Single rooms are less common in Czech state hospitals, and their provision is more likely to provide extra care at extra costs.

A doctor in the Czech Republic indicates treatment, leads and determines therapy and diagnostics. **The nurse is responsible for nursing care and patient satisfaction. The nurse has no competence to provide information on the health status** and course of the patient's treatment. In the hospital, the doctor usually visits the patient twice a day, in the morning and in the afternoon. Twice a week there are main medical rounds of a head physician and other doctors.



Hospitalization in the Czech Republic is voluntary, so the patient has the right to refuse, to discontinue the treatment and to be released at any time. In this case he is informed of the risks of his decision and must sign the so-called **negative reverse**.

http://www.clk.cz/oldweb/zakpred/zakon_96-2004-1.html

10. MEDICAL AND NON-MEDICAL WORKERS IN THE CZECH HEALTH INSTITUTIONS

✓ STRUCTURE OF THE MEDICAL TEAM IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The medical team in the Czech Republic consists of **doctors, nursing staff, auxiliary staff and professionals** such as physiotherapists, nutrition therapists, work therapists, speech therapists, gaming specialists, spiritual chaplains etc. The nursing team consists of registered nurses, nurses and assistants.

✓ NURSING TEAM STRUCTURE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

For work without professional supervision, it is necessary to study a higher education or college degree program. Currently, for example, the following fields can be studied: general nurse, midwife, laboratory assistant, radiology assistant, nutritional therapist, dental technician, dental hygienist, paramedic, pharmaceutical assistant, clinical psychologist, clinical speech therapist, physiotherapist. After graduating from the secondary school program, the graduate works **under the supervision** of a qualified health professional who works without professional supervision in the following fields: health assistant, laboratory assistant, dental assistant, nutrition assistant.



Auxiliary healthcare professions can be qualified through several-week courses. These professions include a nursing assistant, a masseur, an ambulance driver.

✓ THE SYSTEM OF EDUCATION FOR NON-MEDICAL HEALTH WORKERS

Most establishments have the following hierarchy of nursing management staff:

- Deputy Head Nurse who is part of the top management of a particular healthcare facility and is responsible for the overall hospital care.
- Head Nurse is responsible for the activities of the staff in one particular department (surgical, internal, cardiological ...)
- Department Nurse is responsible for the staff at a specific section of that department. He or she provides comprehensive supervision in this area, coordinates the activities of individual staff members.

11. SPECIFIC AREAS OF HEALTH CARE AND NURSING CARE

✓ DYING, PALLIATIVE CARE

Palliative care, as a separate discipline, is not fully utilized and available in the Czech Republic. At present, **specialized palliative care** in the Czech Republic is provided in the home environment (mobile home hospice care), in bed care facilities exclusively dedicated to palliative care = hospice, and in palliative care departments within hospital facilities.

– Death of human in the Czech Republic

In the Czech Republic there are currently 18 facilities providing specialized hospice care. There is a growing number of agencies providing home hospice care. The stay is covered by the health insurance company, the patient is partially involved (about 10%). Any insured is entitled to this care, it depends only on the free capacity of the facility.

– Caring for the dying

Some hospice facilities also offer **other services**: respite stay, i.e. a relief service that helps families with long-term care of an incurably ill person - this stay can be weeks, and family and close people care even after the death of a patient - they can contact hospice staff to provide them with friendly, psychological and spiritual help and support.

– Hospice / palliative care

A hospice is a facility that guarantees the patient the certainty of being dignified, not lonely, and not suffering from pain. It is intended for patients who are at the terminal stage of an incurable disease.

– Euthanasia

Euthanasia is not legal in the Czech Republic, now it is not possible to do it under any circumstances. Discussions about legalization are repeatedly presented in the media, public opinion is not entirely unified. The biggest debate is about the possibilities of abuse as well as the possible forms of euthanasia.

– Autopsy

In the Czech Republic, death is a topic that is partly tabooed, many Czechs are having problems talking about death. Human death, burial, dissection, and related topics are governed by legal standards. Any person living in the Czech Republic has an obligation to notify authorities about finding a dead body. It is communicated to the emergency call line 112, the dispatcher sends a coroner's medical service to the place. After the examination, he confirms or disproves death. He has subsequently the obligation to write the Letter of Examination of the Deceased, marks the body, contacts the family or a close person.

– Organ donation

A doctor who confirms the death of the patient decides about the need of an autopsy.

Based on the circumstances, the autopsy can be:

- pathological-anatomical; the purpose is to identify basic and other diseases of the deceased; to identify their complications to verify the diagnosis and the treatment; it is performed when the patient died in a healthcare facility
- a medical autopsy is performed to detect and explain deaths of people who have died outside healthcare facilities by a sudden, unexpected or violent death or when there is a suspicion of a suicide
- judicial autopsy is done if death was apparently caused by a criminal offense

✓ PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH

After birth, the new-born is basically examined by a paediatrician, the APGAR score is also evaluated, the nurse takes care of the umbilical cord, the new-born is drained, dressed and marked in at least two ways - all under the control of the mother - then weighed (the length is measured the next day so the new-born is not traumatized by stretching of its limbs). As a standard, CRD (Septonex gtt.) and preventive vitamin K are given. Umbilical cord blood test is also standardized. In the Czech Republic, it is possible to carry out abortion at own request **until the 12th week of pregnancy**. From the medical indication (mother's disease) it is possible to terminate pregnancy until the 24th week of pregnancy. The performance can only be done in hospitals (1 to 2 days). The woman can decide freely about the possible abortion.

✓ TRANSFUSION, BLOOD DONATION

Transfusion of blood or its components is a common practice in the Czech Republic. Transfusions do not require patient consent. Blood and blood derivatives are referred to a thorough examination after receipt from the donor, so the risk of infection from the donor and other complications is very low.

In the Czech Republic, most larger hospitals have a blood donation centre (usually part of a haematological department). These centres have a Registry of regular donors who are invited at regular intervals to come to blood donation. In the event of acute need, donors are also used extraordinary. Before each donation, the donor completes a detailed questionnaire where he answers several questions.

<https://www.prodarce.cz/darcovstvi/>

✓ TRANSPLANTATION

Transplantation of organs and tissues is organized in the Czech Republic through the Transplantation Coordination Centre. The whole issue is treated by law. Most Czechs perceive the transplant positively. **"Expectant"** means a patient who is considered by the physician to be a suitable recipient of the tissue or organ. Such a person is included in the National register of persons waiting for the transplant = waiting list. An organ or tissue **donor** may be a deceased person (unless he has expressed his disagreement during life). But also, a living donor who volunteered to donate a paired organ or the tissue that regenerates. **The National registry of persons disagreeing with post-mortal donation of tissues and organs** lists persons who have expressed their disagreement with donation in their life. At present, about 1 thousand are registered.

<http://www.nrod.cz/>