

Speech (№4)

Dear Chair,
Dear Colleagues,

Since the last CSR meeting in November 2020 the main attention of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation has been aimed at ensuring sustainable functioning of the health system in a pandemic.

We can say that the measures taken have yielded positive results and allowed us to take the situation under control. Of course, over the course of the year we have gained tremendous experience. Now, in the course of exchanging information with colleagues from other countries, we see that drugs and treatment regimens that we use in the Russian Federation are actively used by foreign countries as well.

Of course, the pandemic required additional costs. This is primarily the cost of new covid departments opening, services reorganization and vaccinations. Therefore, the state allocates additional funds to medical organizations, to the compulsory medical insurance. It is important to note that there are four vaccines against coronavirus infection that have been registered in Russia: Sputnik V, EpiVacCorona, KoviVak and Sputnik Light. At the same time, "Sputnik V" by this time received approval for use from the authorities of 66 countries around the world.

A bill on introducing COVID vaccination into the national vaccination calendar has been submitted to the State Duma. And the goals of the previously approved National Project Health are not planned to be revised, measures in such areas of the project as modernization of primary care, non-communicable diseases, occupational safety and health, antimicrobial drug resistance, tuberculosis and other socially significant diseases and medical care in the penitentiary system are being implemented in full according to the defined objectives. The planned objectives of the programs have not been adjusted, all the funds provided have been allocated.

I would also like to note that the Russian Federation has achieved an exit from the list of WHO countries with a high burden of tuberculosis thanks to systematic work. We hope that our joint work on these topics with colleagues from the Northern Dimension countries will continue, including through work in the expert group on HIV and TB.

We would also like to inform you that the Northern Dimension Business Forum was successfully held in April 2021. It is important to note that NDPHS experts contributed to the parallel session of the Health Forum. Among the conclusions of this parallel session were: increased collaboration with the NDPHS to develop cross-sectoral initiatives and an invitation to the Secretariat to the next Business Forum.

Thank you for your attention!