

Basic Health Information System in 2020

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The health information system in Kosovo has been trying for a few years to evolve from a paper-based systems towards an electronic information systems for the management of health processes and health data. So far, we observed a combination of paper based and limited use of the Health Information System within healthcare facilities.

Good governance in health care requires reliable and timely information to plan, manage, and measure progress in attaining health objectives. The Ministry of Health over the last-years has been focusing on two parallel processes; creating an enabling environment by improving and investing in IT infrastructure, and developing/implementing an integrated information system for health-care providers. The Health Information System (HIS) Department, in cooperation with the external partner, has progressed with the implementation of a comprehensive nation-wide information system, so called Basic Health Information System. The system pools information from different sources, sufficient for data analysis at the micro, meso, and macro level. Concerning infrastructure, MoH is utilizing the computers from the old HIS software - where it was implemented previously - and investing in the rest of the area to provide the necessary equipment.

In retrospect, following the discontinuity of Health Information System (HIS), the idea/need for a “basic” HIS was noted within the Restructuring Paper of Kosovo Health Project of the World Bank in 2018, mainly as a web application to capture base information for registered patients, to enable uninterrupted implementation of capitation based performance payment (CBPP). CBPP scheme has been a mechanism designated for primary level of health care, which

began implementation in 2017 by MoH in cooperation with the World Bank, under the aim of improving access to quality PHC services. Observing its capacities, flexibility, and suitability to the country-context, the system was decided to adopt few modifications and roll-out as the integrated Basic Health Information System.

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