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Conference Abstract

## The Romanian National Health Strategy 2014 – 2020: “Health for Prosperity” – community medical assistance

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** The Romanian National Health Strategy, “Health for Prosperity”, represents the Romanian government’s commitment to ensuring and promoting health as a key determinant of development from a social, territorial and economic point of view. In the context of the strategy, health can be interpreted as a progress and prosperity generator for the nation, rather than a burden. The strategy - a framework instrument - aims to more closely align Romania with the European context and with the Europe 2020 Strategy.

**Aims:** The development of community healthcare services represents a cost-effective alternative for ensuring the population’s access to basic healthcare services, especially for those from rural areas and vulnerable groups including ethnic Roma. It is also a pre-requisite for restructuring specialised services. The Ministry of Health’s initiative to establish community nurses and health mediator professionals – currently under the umbrella of local authorities, but still funded from the state budget through the Ministry of Health – represents a starting point for organising community centres. These centres will provide healthy lifestyle promotion services, primary, secondary and tertiary prevention services, home-based healthcare and palliation services, curative and treatment services integrated with primary and specialised healthcare as well as school healthcare, and last but not least social care for preventing school abandonment.

**Results:** The results will be monitored and evaluated by the central and regional authorities. Standards and procedures for integrating community services will be elaborated. A monitoring and evaluation methodology for integrating services will be standardised.

**Conclusions:** For the first time since it was first introduced, the National Health Strategy has a community component, aiming to integrate the social and medical aspects of healthcare for the rural population.

### Keywords

**community nurse, health mediator, community centre, healthy lifestyle promotion, Romania, Ministry of Health**

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