



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### REFORMS IN THE FIELD OF MEDICINE IN UZBEKISTAN DURING THE YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

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#### ABSTRACT

The article examines the impact of the economic crisis on the social situation of the population and medicine in the first decade of independence of Uzbekistan. Also, the issue of personnel in medical institutions and medical services provided to the population during this period is analyzed, the development of the medical sector during the years of independence, the implementation of tasks, the history of material and technical base of medical institutions in remote areas of Uzbekistan.

## INTRODUCTION

During the years of independence, Uzbekistan has been implementing many reforms in the field of public health. In this regard, the Action Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan is aimed at further reforming the health care system, first of all, aimed at improving the convenience and quality of medical and social services, the system of emergency care, the formation of a healthy lifestyle, strengthening the technical base; This is evidenced by the definition of tasks such as strengthening family health, protection of motherhood and childhood, expanding access to quality medical care for mothers and children, providing them with specialized and high-tech medical care, further implementation of comprehensive measures to reduce infant and child mortality is proof (1). The negative impact of the economic crisis in the first days of independence on all sectors has also affected the medical sector. The poor quality of medical services in remote villages and districts of Uzbekistan was caused by a lack of material and technical base. Problems with public health were not soon resolved. This, in turn, has led to a sharp increase in morbidity and birth defects among children. Such tragic cases became more visible in the remote areas of the Fergana Valley. There are a lot of research work on the economic and social life of the Fergana Valley during the years of independence. In particular, E.Akramov, Sh.Ishmuhammedova, R. K. Karimov and A. T. Karimova's research is an example of this (2).

One of our researchers who studied the social situation in the Fergana Valley, A. Masharipov, . Yu. Salamov, I. K. Sulaymanov and Shodmonkulov are examples (3). It covers a wide range of social issues of the population of the Fergana Valley. In general, in the late 1980s, dangerous changes in the human genotype, maternal mortality, and the number of infants who died under one year of age led to 56.6 deaths per 1,000 children in Fergana Province (4). The Fergana Valley is characterized by natural population growth rates throughout the country. The birth and natural growth rates were lower than in other regions of the country, and the mortality rate was slightly higher. In addition, the staffing of medical institutions was lagging behind. The state pays great attention to strengthening health, expanding the ranks of healthy people, protecting the health of mothers and children, forming a healthy lifestyle, raising the natural culture in the family, promoting the health of each person among the population, building a healthy society. In this regard, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Public Health" of August 29, 1996, Presidential Decree No. 2107 "On the State Program of Health Care Reform of the Republic of Uzbekistan" of November 10, 1998, "Health Care" of November 28, 2011 Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 1652 "On measures to further deepen the reform of the system" and to ensure a healthy diet of the population of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2015-2020 The decision of the Cabinet of Ministers to ensure the concept and a set of measures has played an important role in shaping a healthy lifestyle among the population. Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "Everyone has the right to the standard of living necessary for his or her health and the well-being of his or her family, including housing." (6)

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**Table 1. The main indicators of health care development in the Republic of Uzbekistan (5)**

Years	1970	1980	1990	1995
Number of specialist doctors, per thousand people	24.4	46	73.7	74.5

Medical care is one of the important factors in ensuring human interests. The Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 1, 2017 "On measures to further develop the private sector in health care" is noteworthy for the provision of a wide range of benefits and preferences to private medical institutions. In particular, until January 1, 2022, these institutions are exempt from paying all types of taxes and mandatory deductions (7). The provided tax benefits will significantly strengthen the material and technical base of private medical institutions. The freed funds will be used to equip them with modern medical equipment, maintain them, purchase spare parts, inventory and other items for medical purposes, build new buildings and structures and reconstruct existing ones. Part of the savings from the tax benefits will be allocated for free medical care for vulnerable groups. Thus, in return for the tax benefits provided, the state simultaneously addresses important ministers to encourage the expansion of quality medical care, along with targeted social protection, and most importantly, does not impose additional financial costs on private medical institutions. Private medical institutions are also exempt from customs duties on new medical equipment, components and their spare parts and materials imported according to the list approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. It is planned to further expand this list, depending on the needs of medical institutions. It should be noted that in order to accelerate the development of the private sector in the field of medicine in rural areas and remote areas, the resolution provides for exemption from a single tax for 10 years from the date of state registration of new micro and small enterprises in the field of health care in rural areas.

The norm, approved by the decision to increase the average annual limited number of employees of small businesses in the health sector from 25 to 100 people from May 1, 2017, will encourage the expansion of employment in the private health sector and create additional opportunities to increase the population served by private medical institutions. The document provides for a significant simplification and acceleration of licensing of private medical institutions, including the reduction of the decision to issue a license from 30 to 20 days, reducing the state fee for licensing from 10 to 5 times the minimum wage. It should be noted that the resolution also includes measures to expand the introduction of international best practices in the private sector of medicine, especially through the involvement of highly qualified foreign specialists and the establishment of joint medical institutions with foreign capital. It is envisaged that foreign doctors and technicians servicing modern medical equipment employed in private medical institutions will be exempt from income tax and other social payments on the income received under employment contracts. Medicines and medical devices play an important role in promoting good health. In this regard, the urgent task was to provide the population of the country with cheap, high-quality medicines and medical supplies, the sale of socially important medicines, medical supplies at fixed prices, the development of the local pharmaceutical industry.

The Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 14, 2017 "On measures to further improve the procedure for the sale of medicines and medical devices, licensing of pharmaceutical activities" is significant in that it is aimed at this goal. In accordance with the resolution, in order to provide the population with cheap and quality medicines and medical devices, to prevent violations of the established procedure for setting their prices, to improve the licensing of certain types of pharmaceutical activities, from April 1, 2017 Licensing is carried out by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, governors and khokimiyats of Tashkent city. The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regional and Tashkent city khokimiyats shall establish regional commissions for issuing licenses for retail sale of medicines and medical devices. These draft resolutions show that the problems in the field of medicine in Uzbekistan compared to the first decades of independence, the use of modern technologies in the field of medicine in the country, the provision of quality services to the population testify to the rapid development of the industry.

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