

Annex 7

Features of the Romanian health social insurance	
Feature	Legislation
Financial and organizational independence of health insurance	Introduced by Law 145/1997 (LASS)
Voluntary private health insurance funds	Units are present on the market since the big private Western insurers have begun operations in the country; however, their activity is not yet regulated by a legislative frame.
Family physician system	The insured have the right to choose their family physician according to the Law 145/1997; Primary care assistance is provided through medical cabinets which are organized according to the Government Ordinance no. 124/1998.
Performance-based remuneration mechanisms	Financing through DRG was introduced this year in 23 hospitals; The funding of primary care is based on a mixed formula of weighted capitation and fee for service. Specialty ambulatory funding is based on individual contracts (fee for service) or global budgets. The payments of expenses for the services performed is made by NHIH according to the National Frame Contract, which is approved yearly by the government.
Private practices	Privatization of the ambulatory units (primary care medical cabinets – family practitioners, and specialty cabinets) was achieved through the Government Ordinance no.124/1998 regarding the organization of medical cabinets. In 1990 was created The Association of Dental Doctors with Private Practice.
Liberalization of the pharmaceuticals market	The privatization of the pharmaceutical products distribution networks (big retailers and small pharmacies) was completed by 1992. The privatization of drug manufacturers is only half way through.
Decentralization of ownership of hospitals	It was based on Law 146/1999 for Hospitals (which abrogated Law 3/1978) – a revision of this law is now under consideration in Parliament;
Hospitals and other facilities with private and non-profit ownership	The legal bases is provided by Law No. 146/1999. However, a small number of private hospitals have been functioning since the early 1990s.
Shift from in-patient to ambulatory care	Family practitioners have the role of gate-keepers through the referral system, in accordance with Law 145 / 1997 (LASS).