



Ministero della Salute

National Health Plan

The multi-annual programming is a fundamental principle in the field of "health protection" and one of the qualifying elements of the National Health Service. At state level, the main planning tool is the National Health Plan.

The National Health Plan is prepared by the Government on the proposal of the Minister of Health taking into account the proposals coming from the Regions; it is adopted by Decree of the President of the Italian Republic after deliberation of the Council of Ministers, in agreement with the Unified Conference, and has a duration of three years.

The dimension of health protection and public health is rooted in the European Union and in other intergovernmental organizations (such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development - OECD and the European Council) or international (such as the World Health Organization - WHO) and in bilateral co-operation with other States. In these areas, health objectives and relative optimal strategies are defined and updated in a systematic way, subsequently implemented by national governments.

The National Health Plan indicates:

- ☐ The priority areas of intervention, with the aim of reducing social and territorial inequalities;
- ☐ Essential levels of health care;
- ☐ The annual funding quota to be guaranteed to the regions;
- ☐ Objective projects;
- ☐ The general aims and the main research areas;
- ☐ Training needs;
- ☐ The guidelines to encourage revision and evaluation methods within each structure;
- ☐ Criteria and indicators to verify the levels of assistance.

Priority goals of the current NHP are:

- ☐ better organize and enhance health promotion and prevention;
- ☐ remodel primary care;
- ☐ promote the promotion of clinical governance and quality in the National Health Service;
- ☐ strengthen the integrated systems of networks both at national or supra-regional level (rare diseases, transplants etc.) both at inter-institutional level (social and health integration) and between the different levels of assistance (prevention, primary care, etc.);
- ☐ promote innovation and research;

- promote the participatory role of the citizen and of the associations in the management of the National Health Service;
- implement a policy for the qualification of human resources.

From the adoption of the National Health Plan, the Regions must adopt the [Regional Health Plan](#).

The NHP identifies as a priority the development of e-health at different levels of the NHS, through the definition and evolution of an overall e-health strategy at national level, shared within the New Health Information System (NHIS) Steering Room and aimed at coherently addressing the e-health project initiatives at regional and local level, for the purposes of implementing digital health within the process of modernization of the NHS.

The project areas with the highest priority of intervention, on which to direct e-health initiatives, at regional and local level, focus on the following guidelines:

- feeding the NHIS with adequate timeliness to effectively monitor health phenomenon;
- identification of the citizen and detection of individual health information, through the use of the Health Card and the related evolution in Health Card on National Service Card (HC-NSC) support, preparatory also for the purposes of monitoring health expenditure and access to health services network;
- availability of the patient's medical history through the Electronic Health Record System (EHR), aimed to collect and making available, to the various subjects responsible for taking care of the clients and to the governance of the system, socio-health information and clinical data associated with the patient's medical history, generated by the various actors in the health system;
- access to health services through Unique Booking Center systems, which facilitate access to services throughout the national territory, increasing the citizen's ability to choose and reducing average waiting times;
- telemedicine services, which can contribute substantially to the development of the territory;
- innovation in primary care through the network connection of the NHS doctors and the digitalization and electronic transmission of sickness certificates, as well as the digital management of the entire medical prescription life cycle through e-Prescription systems, including those referred to in Health Card System;
- dematerialisation of health documentation produced in the context of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures carried out in different care settings.