



**Fédération Européenne
des Médecins Salariés**
European Federation
of Salaried Doctors

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Country report

Bulgaria

May 2022

1. Elections to the Executive Committee of the Bulgarian Medical Association

In September 2021 elections for Presidents, Vice-Presidents and the Executive Committee of the Bulgarian Medical Association were held at the National Assembly.

2. Appointment of new Minister of Health

In December 2021 a new government of the Republic of Bulgaria was elected. The new Minister is a pharmacist, Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management. She has held various positions in the field of marketing authorization, drug safety monitoring, clinical drug trials and health technology assessment.

3. National framework agreement

On 29.04.2022 г At the Ministry of Health the Bulgarian Medical Association, the Supervisory Board of the NHIF, Manager of the NHIF and Minister of Health, signed the annex to the National Framework Agreement 2020-2022 for medical activities. 30% is the average increase in PIMP and SIMP activities. Higher prices for outpatient care come into force with rear date from 01.01.2022. The new prices enter into force from 01.05.2022. For the remaining months to the end of the year, hospitals will also receive increased budgets - approximately 25%. Despite the increase in the cost of medical activities, health care remains underfunded.

4. Collective labor agreement.

On April 12, 2022, a collective labor agreement was signed, in which monthly minimum wages were fixed. Salaries in UH - head of clinic 1250 euros, doctor with 2 specialties – 1100 euros, 1 specialty – 1050 euros, young doctor 1000 euros. Other hospitals - head of clinic 1150 euros, doctor with 2 specialties – 1050 euros, 1 specialty – 1000 euros, young doctor 950 euros. There are allowances that can maximize wages by up to 30%, on average. It is currently difficult to achieve these wages due to underfunding of medical activities and rising prices of electricity, gas, etc., related to inflation.

Collective labor agreements the unions and the employer came to an agreement for a new collective labor agreement for the university and other hospitals. The negotiations took a long time because of disagreement about the salary paragraph.

5. COVID-19 in Bulgaria

As of April 1, 2022, the Bulgarian government lifted the state of emergency epidemic situation, as a result of which, most of the restrictions on coronavirus, including mandatory mask wearing in many indoor places. The obligation to wear masks indoors now only applies for hospitals, nursing homes and nursing homes.

Status: 03.05.2022 (<https://coronavirus.bg/>)

Tests performed so far: 9,864,292

Cases confirmed overall: 1,157,919

Current active cases: 720 new cases for 8565 tests per day

Hospitalized: 803 Intensive care unit: 75,

Number of people recovered: 4,059,732

Confirmed deaths: 36,947, Current deaths: 27

Vaccinations:

Applied doses - 4,383,741,

Number of people with completed vaccination course 2,056,129

With a booster dose — 747,505

The total number of citizens who want to be vaccinated in our country remains very small (30%), and 10% have been given a booster dose. Removing the restrictions has further reduced the number of people who want to be vaccinated.