

Practical clinical guidelines for diabetes treatment in Macedonia and worldwide

Abstract

Republic of Macedonia has a national diabetes prevalence of 12.0% and comparative (age-adjusted) diabetes prevalence of 10.3% being the third highest in Europe, behind just Turkey and Montenegro. Posing a tremendous challenge for the society, diabetes, as a specifically designated medical condition, was included in the recently adopted amendments on the Law on Healthcare. International guidelines were adopted as national guidelines for diabetes care and treatment and were published in the Official Journal of Republic of Macedonia, where laws and by-laws are published, further emphasizing the importance attributed to diabetes as nationwide condition. Amendments on the Law on Healthcare also stipulated formation of the National Diabetes Committee aiming to oversee the implementation of national guidelines for diabetes care and treatment, covering areas such as education, glucose-lowering treatment algorithm, blood pressure and lipid management in diabetes, as well as management of renal failure, eye screening and neuropathic pain. In addition, data for all diabetes patients have been integrated in the National eHealth System, together with a National Diabetes Register, enabling numerous analyses on a national level.