

Welcome Message to the participants of the Russian Health Care Week 2022

Dear colleagues,

Let me on behalf of the Russian Ministry of Health Care welcome the participants and organisers of Russian Health Care Week 2022!

Russian Health Care Week has become the largest show-case of scientific and practical medical achievements, bringing together doctors, medical equipment manufacturers, researchers, government and business representatives from many countries. The Week is included in the list of events for the Decade of Science and Technology in the Russian Federation (2022–2031), announced by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Today, we are on a steady downward trajectory in terms of mortality. In fact, in a short period of time, these figures have reached even lower values compared to the pre-pandemic year of 2019. The mortality rate for circulatory diseases has fallen by almost 10% and for cancer by 4.5%. Given the emerging trend, we forecast an increase in life expectancy of 1.8 years. This is a good example of how targeted actions based on the understanding of mortality reduction reserves make it possible to manage public health.

It should also be noted that one of the important components of the implementation of national and federal projects is the provision of medical facilities with material and technical resources and medicines. The use of advanced medical equipment makes it possible to improve disease prevention, diagnosis and treatment. In 538 regional vascular centres and primary vascular units, more than 15,200 units of medical equipment, including 361 units of heavy equipment, have been commissioned over the past three years. Over the three years, 1,324 mobile medical facilities have been purchased. More than 2,300 pieces of medical equipment, including more than 160 pieces of heavy equipment, have been commissioned in federal medical facilities providing care to cancer patients since 2020.

We are implementing initiatives for social and economic development with the introduction of innovations. A systematic mechanism is created to support the development of public institutions and their support in the innovation cycle, bringing the results of developments to specific products such as medical devices and pharmaceuticals available to patients. The use of advanced medical equipment makes it possible to improve disease prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

The experience gained in introducing medical devices to the market during the COVID-19 period made it possible to bring medical devices to the Russian market at an accelerated pace during the introduction of economic restrictions against this country. According to 2021 results, the volume of the medical devices market stood at RUB 525.2 billion, of which 31.3% was made up of domestically manufactured medical devices. The volume of the public procurement market was RUB 462.1 billion (88% of the total), with the share of domestically manufactured medical devices at 32%.

The health care system must respond effectively to new challenges and demands. This requires a transformation based on digitalisation and artificial intelligence. Thanks to digital patient profiles, it is easy to assess health risks, build plans for preventive measures, and form groups of people in need of high-tech medical procedures. I am sure that the functioning of the Russian health care system in the emerging realities will be the focus of the Week participants' attention.

I know that the participants will discuss best practices in primary health care, the fight against cardiovascular diseases and cancer, the organisation of children's health care and the export of health services, human resources, and legislative support.

I would like to point out that the level of confidence in the health care system has recently increased noticeably thanks to preventive care for population aimed at keeping Russians healthy, such as reducing alcohol consumption and quitting smoking, and promoting sport and good nutrition.

I am positive that Russian Health Care Week 2022 will be meaningful and constructive, and will contribute to improving national health care and the quality of life of Russian citizens. Let me wish fruitful work, good health and wellbeing!

Mikhail Murashko Minister of Health Care of the Russian Federation