National Report Slovakia spring 2017

The Slovak healthcare is dealing with several major projects, and within it the GPs also has its own interests and bases.

- 1. Finally, Nightshift issues seem to be addressed. The main problem, namely the statutory obligation to perform nightshift without any further specification, is the source of the ever-increasing tension between the GPs. We have more and more few GP and all ambulatory doctors. The joint solution of Association of private doctors /ASL SR/, Medical chamber SLK and Health Government MZ SR is to provide Nightshift within the 23rd hour, a guaranteed 12-hour reward, and a clearly defined Night shift Provider's duty.
- 2. The introduction of e-health: Government pay e-health in the Slovak republic SR (for 57 million euros) is getting to the final stage. However, as a GPs, we still have a problem with the fact that we still do not know who will pay the extra costs of purchasing hardware, training staff, purchasing advanced telecom services. It seems that the partial solution of e-health from private health Insures ZP Dôvera (1.4 mill. Insurers) in terms of e-prescription is more successful than government pay e-health. Present, around 60% of outpatient providers are using e-prescription solutions. The most significant advantage is the substantial reduction in the risk of drug interactions that this software allows. This increases the safety of treatment for patients as well as for doctors.
- 3. Our activity to raise the possibility of providing health care outside of health insurance (the patient would have paid the doctor's cash, and the medicines would still be paid by the Health insures) was accepted positively by the Minister of Health. Unfortunately, some medical organizations did not understand the importance of this step for doctors, and their resistance eventually forced the Minister to withdraw the proposal. We hope that this is only a postponement of this significant step for us.