



## Türkiye’de sağlık sisteminin gelişiminin analizi

### Analysis of the development of health systems in Turkey

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#### ÖZET

Toplumun refah düzeyinin artırılmasında sağlık en önemli konulardan birini oluşturmaktadır. Sağlıklı bireylerin olduğu toplumlar daha üretkenlerdir. Bu nedenle sağlık alanındaki iyileştirmeler, toplumsal refahın artırılması adına önemlidir. Türkiye’de özellikle 2002 yılı sonrasında sağlık alanında yapılan reformlar, sağlık sisteminde önemli değişikliklere neden olmuştur. Sağlık reformları ile Türkiye’de sağlık alanında yeniden yapılanmaya gidilmiş ve toplumun sağlık göstergelerinde önemli değişiklikler kaydedilmiştir. Bu çalışmanın amacı Türkiye’de geçmişten günümüze kadar olan dönemde sağlık ile ilgili gelişmeleri incelemek ve sağlık göstergeleri üzerinden değerlendirmeler yapmaktır.

#### ABSTRACT

Health is one of the most important issues in increasing the welfare of society. Societies with healthy individuals are more productive. Improvements in health are therefore important for increasing social welfare. The reforms in the health sector in Turkey, especially after 2002, has led to significant changes in the health care system. Health reforms in the health sector in Turkey has been restructured and has made significant changes in community health indicators. The aim of this study is to examine developments related to health in the period up to the present and the past in Turkey and make assessments on health indicators.

#### INTRODUCTION

Health is one of the most important issues in increasing the welfare of society. Societies with healthy individuals are more productive. Improvements in health are therefore important for increasing social welfare. The reforms in the health sector in Turkey, especially after 2002, has led to significant changes in the health care system. Health reforms in the health sector in Turkey has been restructured and has made significant changes in community health indicators. The aim of this study is to examine developments related to health in the period up to the present and the past in Turkey and make assessments on health indicators.

#### EVOLUTION OF HEALTH SYSTEMS IN TURKEY

The general process of health system in our country is examined in this section. The historical aspect of the health system in our country has been mentioned in the section from 1920 until today.

#### 1920-1938 Period

The reform movement, which is associated with the health care system has emerged with the opening of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. For the first time to improve and improve the health system, the Ministry of Health and Medical Affairs was established on May 2, 1920 and the health system-related activities were united under a single roof. After the establishment of the first law for the health system, the first minister of health Adnan Adıvar started to work. In the next period, legal regulations have been started to be implemented in order to meet the health needs of the society. Dr. Dr. Adnan Adıvar left his post very soon and Refik Saydam took his place and took serious steps in his place (Akdur, 2004: 3).

Refik Saydam has done his duty for 14 years. Refik Saydam has dealt with important tasks in meeting the health requirements in Turkey. In particular, the fight against infectious diseases and preventive medicine has led to the development of important policies (Akın, 2015: 4).

During the process of Refik Saydam, necessary steps have been taken in order to prevent the inadequacies of both health personnel and hospitals in Turkey. At the same time, Refik Saydam is considered to be one of the most important errors in this process is not established medical schools (Cevahir, 2013: 53).

In 1925, a program of work was created in order to solve problems related to health services in our country. Within the scope of the study program intended to be made in the form of health services are listed as follows

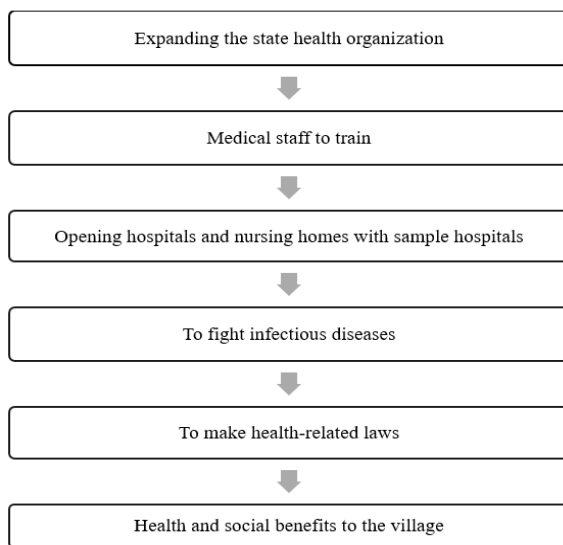


Figure 1. 1925 Health Care Planning

Source: Akin, adapted from 2015: 5.

### The Period of 1938-1960

Even though our country did not participate in World War II, there were also regressions and negativities in the field of health as in all areas. In this process, the main objectives of the Ministry of Health were to prevent infectious diseases and to give importance to the production and acceleration of vaccines. Malaria and tuberculosis diseases showed a significant increase due to the shortage of medicines caused by war and caused a significant increase in health in this period (Cevahir, 2013: 56).

Behçet Uz, one of the important names in the period, has been formed a ten-year plan for the development and acceleration of health services. The plan aims to establish an integrated health system and to increase the adequacy of health personnel. At the same time, the continuation of the plan was not introduced after Behçet Uz (judgment, 2013: 42).

### 1961-1980 Period

A new era started in the health system with the 1960 coup. In the context of Articles 48 and 49, which came into force with the 1961 Constitution, health was recognized as the right granted to individuals. The articles included in the Constitution are given below (Akin, 2015: 7-8):

Article 48 :Everyone has the right to social security. In order to ensure this right, it is the duty of the state to establish and establish social insurance and social assistance organizations.

Article 49 :The State shall be obliged to ensure that everyone can live in physical and mental health and to receive medical care. The state takes measures to meet the housing needs of poor and low-income families according to their health conditions.

In this period, a development plan has been established for the first time. Within the framework of this development plan, important plans have been established for the health system between 1963-67. In our country, new plans and practices for health services have been established. Some of these plans are given below (Akin, 2015: 9):

- To increase preventive and health care measures in our country
- Continue public health work under the leadership of the Ministry of Health
- Equal distribution of health personnel across the country
- Improvement of services for community health
- Providing adequate incentives for the pharmaceutical industry
- Promotion of incentives to private hospitals within the country
- Implementation of universal health insurance
- Revolving system in public hospitals

While the state had an active role in the health system in the period up to the time of the coup, the state after the coup dealt with the responsibility of supervision and the private sector had a direct role in the health system. In the following process, the state of having the money can receive health service emerged (decision, 2013: 44).

### 1980-2002 Period

The political and economic crises in our country have affected the health policy of this period. Operation in Cyprus in the year 1974 actual, 1979 oil crisis, and the

kinds of economic problems due to political fluctuations have occurred as of January 14, 1980 military coup in Turkey, and the entire system has taken shape again (Cevahir, 2013: 65).

The legal regulations in the health system in Turkey in the 1980-2000 period are given below.

Year	Arrangement
1987	Basic Law of Health Services No. 3359
1989	Health Sector Master Plan Study
1991	Establishment of the SB Health Project General Coordinatorship
1993	Preparation of National Health Policy Document
1993	Draft Law on Regional Health Administrations
1993	Draft Law on Health Law
1993	Draft Law on General Health Insurance
1996	Draft Law on Health Financing Institution, Establishment and Operation Law
1996	Draft Law on Primary Health Care and Family Medicine
1996	Draft of Basic Law of Health Businesses
1998	Draft Law on Establishment and Operation of Personal Health Insurance System and Health Insurance Administration
1999	Social Security Act
1999	Law of the Health Fund Institution

After the coup, the perspective of the state on health was changed with the Constitution. State health services provide a position that regulates and regulates the use of private health institutions has brought to the forefront. In this context, the article in the Constitution has been amended as follows (Cevahir, 2013: 66):

Everyone has the right to live in a healthy and balanced environment. To improve the environment, to protect the environment and to prevent environmental pollution is the duty of the state and the citizen. It fulfills this duty by utilizing the health and social assistance institutions in the public and private sectors. General Health Insurance can be introduced by law in order to carry out health services widely (Article 56)

### Health Transformation Program

The first change in the health sector after the AKP came to power after the 2002 elections was the mes Health Transformation Program (SDP) 2002.

With the use of tır Health for All ortaya, the Emergency Action Plan was introduced in the health sector and significant reforms were made in the health sector. Within the scope of the developments in the health sector, a number of goals for the health system are given as follows (Soyer, 2009: 180):

- Ensuring that the patients are autonomous
- Ensuring that patients take their own decisions when it comes to health care.
- Implementation of practices for family physicians in health services
- Improving and developing a number of special services for child and mother health
- Transformation of the Ministry of Health into a more functional
- Increasing the share of the private sector in the health sector without including the public sector
- When it comes to authorization in the field of public health
- The introduction of medical personnel to areas where inadequate health personnel in Turkey
- Health institutions under a single roof
- The use of e-transformation in health services

Within the health transformation program, eight themes are prominent. These themes and principles are listed below.

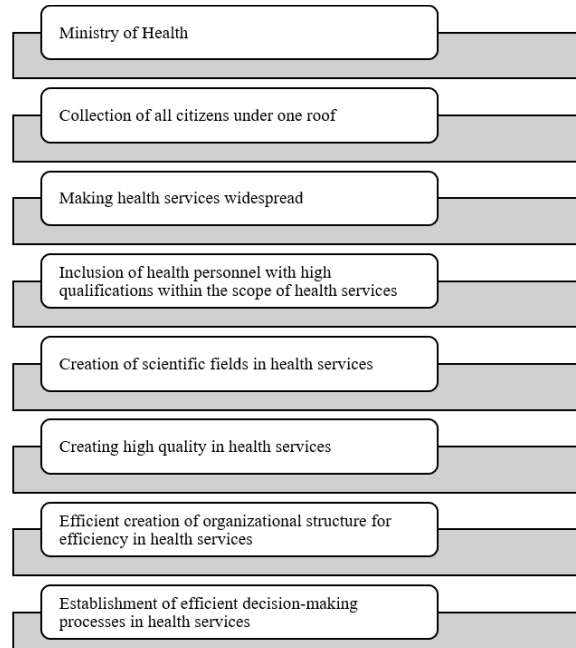


Figure 2. Health Transformation Program 8 Theme

Source: Akdag, 2008: 20.

The main purpose of the health transformation program is to benefit all people from the health sector. In order to achieve the goals of health transformation, effective control should be provided and controlled. Plans should be conducted and followed up regularly. In the light of these, a health policy cycle was created. This cycle is given below.



Figure 3. Health Policy Circle

Source: Akdag, 2008: 25.

In order to ensure effective and efficient implementation of the health transformation program, problems must be identified and identified. In the second place, the development of policies is included and these policies include decision-making. Ensuring the implementation of policies and evaluating them at the very end constitute the general health policy circle. There are also a number of control mechanisms in the health transformation program and are given below.



Figure 4. Main Control Mechanisms in Health Transformation

Source: Akdag, 2008: 29.

An important step has been taken to ensure that all people benefit from social security services in the health transformation program. In this context, the scope of social security has been increased so that many individuals can benefit from social security opportunities in the field of health and social security institutions are united under a single roof. Within the scope of SSI, citizens who are included in the scope of social security are given as follows.

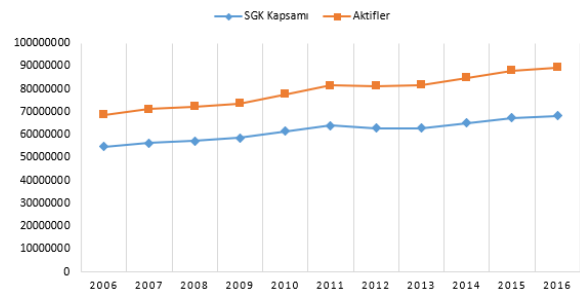


Figure 5. SSI Scope

Source: SSI, Statistical Yearbook, 2018.

Within the scope of reforms in the health sector in Turkey, the number of persons included in the scope of social security has been a significant increase. Within the scope of the new health reform, it is aimed that every citizen is included in the health system.

### TURKEY BY HEALTH STATISTICS INDICATORS

In Turkey, health statistics show improvement with each passing year, though, health services are inadequate in the face of increasing population. The continuous increase in the number of people benefiting from health services leads to intensification in health institutions and this negatively affects health service quality.

The health statistics are analyzed in graphs below.

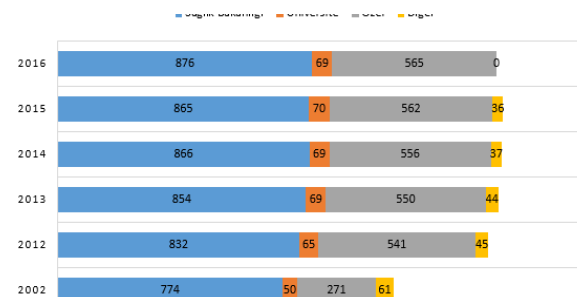


Figure 6. Number of Hospitals by Years and Sectors

Source: Ministry of Health (2018). Health Statistics Yearbook, 2016

When the number of hospitals and beds is examined, it is seen that there has been a significant increase in the share of private sector. With the arrangements made in the field of health, more private investment has been

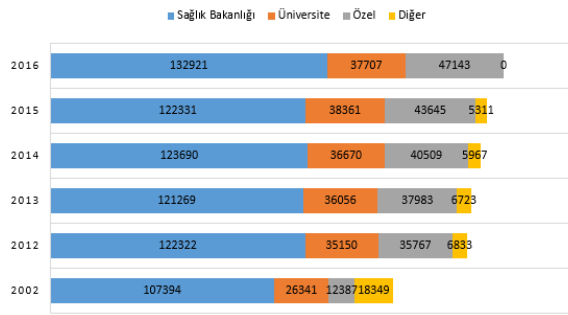


Figure 7. Number of Hospital Beds by Years and Sectors

Source: Ministry of Health (2018). Health Statistics Yearbook, 2016.

made in the health sector and the share of the private sector has increased significantly.

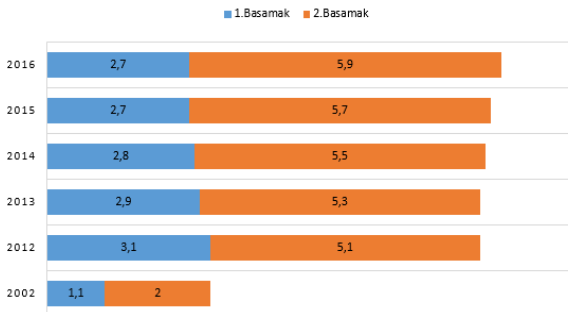


Figure 8. Number of Applications per Person by Year and Service Scope, All Sectors

Source: Ministry of Health (2018). Health Statistics Yearbook, 2016.

When the number of patients who applied to the physician is examined by years, it is seen that each year an increase has been recorded. The increase in the number of patients is associated with an increase in population. The following chart is located in Turkey population

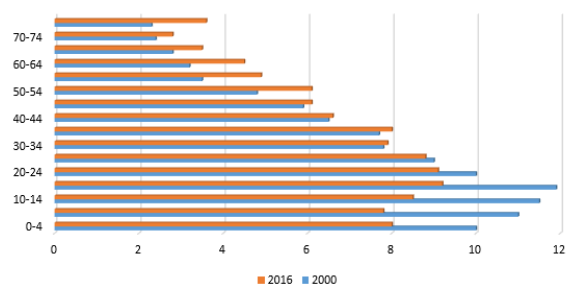


Figure 9. Population Pyramid, (%), Turkey, 2000, 2016

Source: Ministry of Health (2018). Health Statistics Yearbook, 2016.

Considering the population pyramid in Turkey's young population correspondingly decreased compared to 2000 has increased in the elderly population. The increase in the elderly population can be considered as one of the most important factors in increasing the demand for health services.

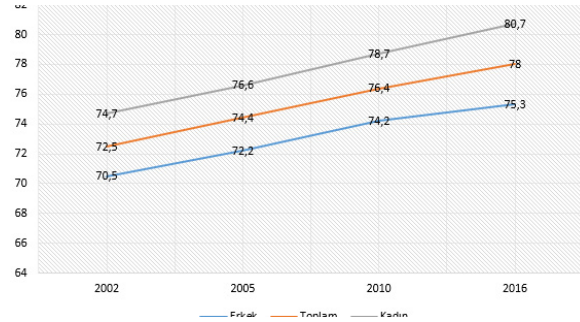


Figure 10. Life Expectancy at Birth by Years and Sex, (Age)

Source: Ministry of Health (2018). Health Statistics Yearbook, 2016.

When life expectancy at birth by years and sex is examined, it is seen that life expectancy increases with each passing year. However, the lifetime of women was higher than that of men. Increasing life expectancy increases the demand for health services.

## RESULT

The most important development was made in 2002, the Health Transformation Program in Turkey in the health care system. The main purpose of the health transformation program is to benefit all people from the health sector. In order to achieve the goals of health transformation, effective control should be provided and controlled. Plans should be conducted and followed up regularly. In order to ensure effective and efficient implementation of the health transformation program, problems must be identified and identified. In the second place, the development of policies is included and these policies include decision-making. Ensuring the implementation of policies and evaluating them at the very end constitute the general health policy circle. Significant improvements in the health field in Turkey as part of the Health Transformation Program is recorded. There was a significant increase in the number of hospitals and beds. On the other hand, increasing population and increasing life expectancy increase the demand for health services. The increase in the demand for health services and the inadequacy of the demand are causing a decrease in the quality of health services.

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