

WHAT IS MS?

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a complex neurodegenerative disease affecting approximately 1,500 of the 4 million¹ people in Moldova.

Each person will experience this unpredictable disease differently, but common symptoms often include pain, fatigue, reduced mobility and cognitive dysfunction.

There is currently no cure for MS; however, optimal treatment and support have a significant effect on disease progression and quality of life for people with MS.



PAIN



FATIGUE



REDUCED MOBILITY



COGNITIVE DYSFUNCTION

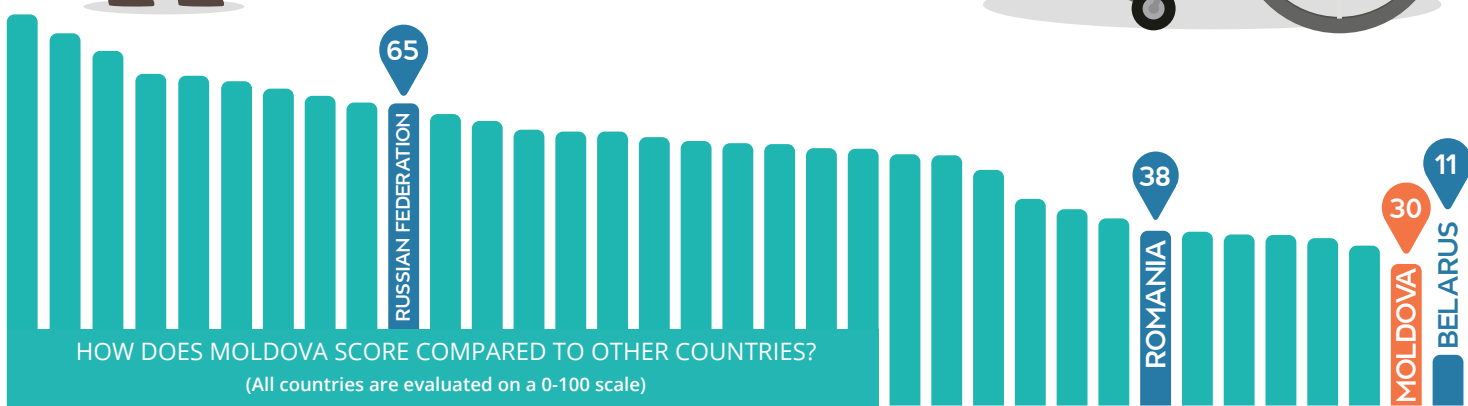
COUNTRY CONTEXT

Healthcare in Moldova is complex as many actors are involved in healthcare provision, regulation and financing, including central government agencies, local authorities, and public and private medical providers.²

There is mandatory health insurance, but out-of-pocket costs may reach up to 44% of total spending.³ Following reforms in 2004, focus has shifted from a hospital-centric system to one with strong primary care, but significant geographical disparities persist and, overall, provisions for long-term and rehabilitation care remain weak.



COUNTRY RANKING



HOW DOES MOLDOVA SCORE COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES?

(All countries are evaluated on a 0-100 scale)



WHAT DID THE BAROMETER FIND?

The number of people receiving disease-modifying drugs (DMDs) rose in 2018 from 17 to 60 people, and may now be as high as 100. However, most people are still unable to access DMDs, and other gaps in care persist:



ONLY
1
DMD IS AVAILABLE

Only 1 DMD is available and reimbursed, and just 6% of people with MS receive this DMD.

ONLY
HOSPITAL SET THERAPIES ARE REIMBURSED

There is no reimbursement for symptomatic therapies used outside of the hospital setting for people with MS.

ONLY
INPATIENT REHABILITATION IS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

The only publicly available rehabilitation is inpatient rehabilitation –which up to 30% of people with MS receive each year.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS



Improve understanding of DMDs and symptomatic therapies among decision-makers and policymakers to increase the number of approved and reimbursed treatments, and ensure adequate budgets are secured to fund them.



Establish an MS centre of excellence with a multidisciplinary team incorporating a neurologist, nurse and rehabilitation specialists.

Establish a publicly funded outpatient rehabilitation service that allows all people with MS to receive a personalised rehabilitation plan and access to a multidisciplinary rehabilitation team.



More information can be found at www.emsp.org or contact Elisabeth.kasilingam@emsp.org

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