



**"Value for money in general practice -
management and public trust"**

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Title: ***Quality and safety in primary care: Recent achievements in the Czech Republic.***

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Abstract

Background and aim

Decentralization as well as liberalization of health care system, having been introduced in the Czech Republic from 1990, require adopting of efficient instruments to assure quality of care, regardless the kind and the size of the facility. Accreditation of health care facility is a proven and efficient method, used in liberal political settings all over the world. Ambulatory health care facilities, including ambulance of GPs´, granted wide autonomy by regulatory bodies, did not have either opportunity or motivation to step into the process of accreditation. In spite of the fact, that the need of quality of care and safety for patients in ambulatory care is as important as in hospitals.

Methods

Project, which description follows, was supported by the grant of the Czech Ministry of Health. It was focused on piloting of accreditation of GPs´ ambulance in the Czech Republic. Project team used the experience of past projects on primary health care quality assessment as well as the international models (EU, USA). This project accreditation model was considered from legal and institutional point of view, too.

Results

Following documents are the project outcomes:

- National Accreditation Standards for health care facilities, providing General Practice.
- Manual for preparation of accreditation protocols.
- Terminology of health care quality.
- Proposal of syllabus for education of accreditation officers.
- Methodology of external audit.

Conclusion

Subsequently, the nongovernmental body for introduction of the process of accreditation and maintenance the repository for benchmarking of practices involved was established.