

General data

POPULATION, 2023
37,732,836
PHYSICIANS / 1,000 INH, 2021
-

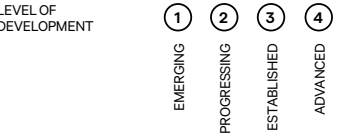
Socioeconomic data

COUNTRY INCOME LEVEL, 2022
Upper middle income
GDP PER CAPITA (US\$), 2023
5,069
HEALTH EXPENDITURE (% GDP), 2021
8.00
UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE, 2021
76



WHO FRAMEWORK FOR PALLIATIVE CARE DEVELOPMENT

- ④ EMPOWERMENT OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES
- ⑥ POLICIES
- ③ RESEARCH
- ⑤ USE OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES
- ② EDUCATION AND TRAINING
- ① PROVISION OF PC



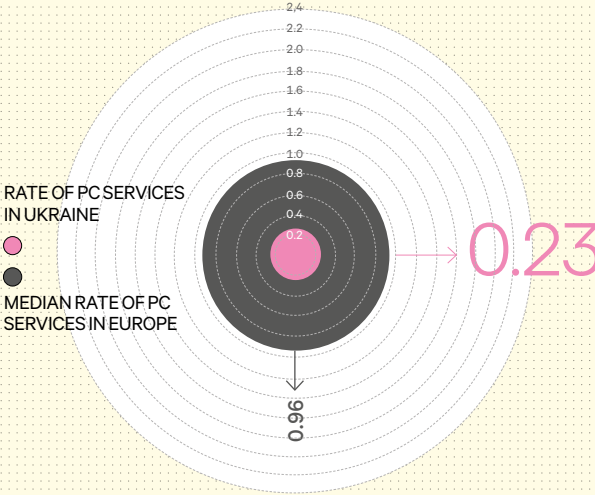
Consultants: Sofiya Shunkina.
National Association: Ukrainian League for the Development of Palliative and Hospice Care (Inactive).
Data collected: October 2024–March 2025
Report validated by consultants: -
Endorsed by National PC Association: -
Edition: Edited by Atlantes Research Team (University of Navarra, Spain).

Ukraine

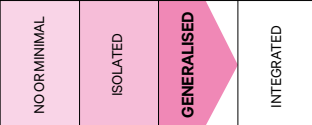
F Provision of PC (Specialised Services)

Total number of Specialised PC services
87
Rate of PC services per 100,000 inhabitants
0.23

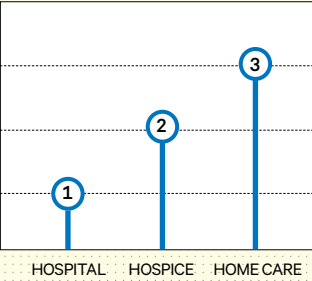
Ukraine in the context of European region



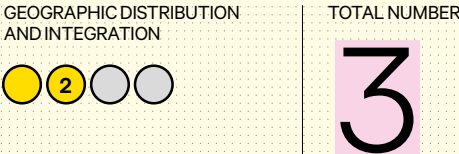
Geographic distribution and integration of PC services



Level of development of different types of PC services



Paediatric PC Services

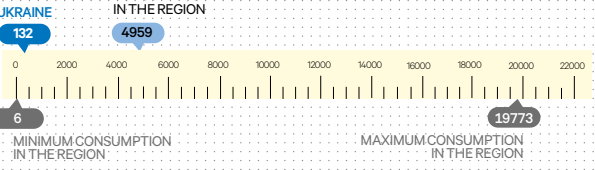


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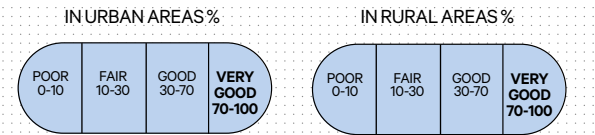
D Use of essential medicines

Opiods consumption (excluding methadone)
132
S-DDD/MILL INHABITANTS/DAY

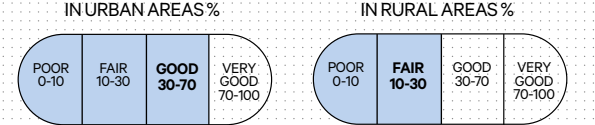
Ukraine in the context of European region



Overall availability of essential medicines for pain and PC at the primary level



General availability of immediate-release oral morphine at the primary level



General availability of different opioids and in different formulations at the primary level



C Research

PC-related research articles



Inclusion of PC topics in National Research Calls



Existence of PC congresses or scientific meetings



E Education & Training

Medical schools with mandatory PC teaching
0/16

Nursing schools with mandatory PC teaching
N/A

PC Full Professors
0

Recognition of PC specialty
1

B Policies

National PC plan or strategy
2

Responsible authority for PC in the Ministry of Health
1





Inclusion of PC in the basic health package at the primary care level
4

A Empowerment of people and communities





Groups promoting the rights of PC patients
2

Advanced care planning-related policies
1

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Ind1 Existence of groups dedicated to promoting the rights of patients in need of PC, their care-givers, and disease survivors.	 Pioneers, champions, or advocates of palliative care can be identified, but without a formal organisation constituted.	In Ukraine there are some public social media groups, where some specialists or volunteers work helping patients and care-givers. Also there are many advocacy organisations and charitable foundations but not any specialised organisation with advocacy activity in palliative care. The most famous public organisation is the “Ukrainian League for the Development of Palliative and Hospice Care”, devoted to the improvement of the existing legislation on palliative care, development of plans, programmes related to the provision of medical, psychological, physical, social, spiritual support to the terminally ill, promotion and approval of the State Programme for palliative care, support in the creation of a modern educational and methodological base for the training of personnel in the field of palliative care.
Ind2 Is there a national policy or guideline on advance directives or advance care planning?	 There is no national policy or guideline on advance care planning.	No evidence found.
Ind3 3.1. There is a current national PC plan, programme, policy, or strategy. 3.2. The national palliative care plan (or programme or strategy or legislation) is a standalone.	 Developed over 5 years ago.  There is a dedicated section on palliative care contained within another national plan such as for cancer, NC diseases or HIV.	There is an official national strategy for the period 2017-2027, developed but not implemented in full scale, due to different circumstances, including the war from 2014. This Strategy includes the principles of development of palliative care, some of which are similarly described in the General state programme against oncological diseases, in the Nationwide target social programme for combating tuberculosis, and in the National targeted social programme for combating HIV infection/AIDS. Furthermore, there are several legislative documents such as 1) Specialised MoH Order - ‘On improving the organisation of palliative care in Ukraine’, dated 04.06.2020 1308, 2) Law dated November 19, 1992 No. 2801-XII ‘Basics of Ukrainian legislation on health care’, stating that palliative care is provided free of charge in state and communal health-care institutions; 3) Law dated October 19, 2017 No. 2168-VIII ‘On State Financial Guarantees of Medical Services of the Pop-







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3.3. There are indicators in the national plan to monitor and evaluate progress, with measurable targets.	 Not known or does not exist.	ulation’, describing how the state guarantees medical services and medicines related to the provision of palliative care at the expense of the state budget (medical component of palliative care-inpatient and mobile), and 4) the Order of the Ministry of Social Policy of January 29, 2016 No. 58 ‘On the Approval of the State Standard of Palliative Care’, defining the content, volume, norms and regulations, conditions and procedure for providing social services for palliative care, indicators of its quality.
Ind4 PC services are included in the list of priority services for Universal Health Coverage at the primary care level in the national health system.	 Palliative care is included in the list of health services provided at the primary care level in the General Health Law.	Law n°2168-VIII ‘On State Financial Guarantees of Medical Services of the Population’ guarantees PC medical services and medicines at the expense of the state budget. The National Health Service pays for the medical component of PC inpatient and mobile. According to legislation, PC is divided into general, provided by a family doctor, and specialised, provided by a multidisciplinary team of a medical facility both in hospital and at the place of residence. If necessary, the family doctor can consult a multidisciplinary team and adjust/create a PC plan. The multidisciplinary team involves physicians, social workers, psychologists, volunteers, clergy, etc. The content and scope of PC medical services are determined by the programme of state guarantees. In 2024, general PC is provided as part of the ‘Primary medical care’ package, and specialised as part of the ‘Inpatient PC for adults and children’ and ‘Mobile PC for adults and children’ packages.
Ind5 5.1. Is there a national authority for palliative care within the government or the Ministry of Health? 5.2. The national authority has concrete functions, budget and staff.	 There is no authority defined.  Does not have concrete functions or resources (budget, staff, etc.).	There is no coordinating entity and, in consequence, it has no concrete functions or resources such as budget, staff, etc.

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<div>Ind6</div> <div>Existence of congresses or scientific meetings at the national level specifically related to PC.</div>	<div><div><div></div><div>2</div><div></div><div></div></div><div>Only sporadic or non-periodical conferences or meetings related to palliative care take place.</div></div>	<div>The most famous scientific event dedicated to palliative care in Ukraine is the National Congress on Palliative Care. As of 2024, four congresses have been held (2012, 2015, 2020, 2023). The last Congress in 2023 was dedicated to palliative care and war in Ukraine. The National Congress always gathers the best leading specialists in the field of palliative care in Ukraine, and this is the place where doctors, scientists and other professionals can meet each other and exchange the knowledge. Also there some other congresses and conferences, which have special section related to palliative care, like oncology congresses, neurology, cardiology etc.</div>
<div>Ind7.1</div> <div>Estimation of the level of peer-reviewed articles focusing on PC research published in any language in the past 5 years with at least one author from the country.</div>	<div><div><div></div><div>2</div><div></div><div></div></div><div>Reflects a limited number of articles published.</div></div>	<div>There is, besides some peer reviewed articles, a specialised scientific journal 'Rehabilitation and palliative medicine', where various articles related to palliative care and abstracts from conferences are published.</div>
<div>Ind7.2</div> <div>Inclusion of PC topics in national research calls.</div>	<div><div><div>1</div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div><div>There are no national research calls at all.</div></div>	<div>There are no national research calls at all.</div>
<div>Ind8</div> <div>Reported annual opioid consumption –excluding methadone– in S-DDD per million inhabitants per day.</div>	<div><div><div>132</div><div>S-DDD PER MILLION INHAB /DAY</div></div><div><div>COUNTRY VS REGION</div><div><div><div>UKRAINE</div><div>132</div></div><div><div>AVERAGE CONSUMPTION IN THE REGION</div><div>4959</div></div><div><div>MINIMUM CONSUMPTION IN THE REGION</div><div>6</div></div><div><div>MAXIMUM CONSUMPTION IN THE REGION</div><div>19773</div></div></div></div></div>	

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<p>Ind9</p> <p>9.1. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in Urban areas that have pain and PC medications as defined in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.</p> <p>9.2. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in rural areas that have pain and PC medications as defined in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.</p>	<p></p> <p></p>	<p>Almost all the medicines, indicated as essential in WHO Model List in Palliative Care chapter are registered in Ukraine according to the official website of State Drug Register. Also these medicines are present on pharmacies.</p>
<p>Ind10.1</p> <p>10.1.1. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in urban areas that have immediate-release oral morphine (liquid or tablet).</p> <p>10.1.2. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in rural areas that have immediate-release oral morphine (liquid or tablet).</p>	<p></p> <p></p>	<p>Although factual estimations are rather difficult, immediate-release morphine (tablets), is included in special governmental programme of medicines cost reimbursement. The general physicians or other doctor prescribe the morphine and patients go to the pharmacy and can receive this drug for free or for some part of payment.</p>
<p>Ind10.2</p> <p>10.2.1. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in urban areas that have different opioids and in different formulations.</p> <p>10.2.2 Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in rural areas that have different opioids and in different formulations.</p>	<p></p> <p></p>	<p>As of 2024 in Ukraine the following opioids (at the pharmaceutical market) are available. However, it is difficult to report official information about the primary facilities. 1) Morphine-solution for injection, immediate-release tablets (5, 10 mg). Oral syrup is registered nut not available in pharmacies. Sustained-release forms are not registered and not available; 2) Fentanyl-solution for injection, transdermal patches; 3) Hydromorphone - not registered; 4) Buprenorphine-solution for injection, sublingual tablets; 5) Oxycodone-solution for injection, Sustained-release tablets.</p>

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Ind11 11.1. The proportion of medical schools with COMPULSORY teaching in PC (with or without other optional teaching). 11.2. The proportion of medical schools with OPTIONAL teaching in PC. 11.3. The proportion of nursing schools with COMPULSORY teaching in PC (with or without other optional teaching). 11.4. The proportion of nursing schools with OPTIONAL teaching in PC. 11. 5. PC Full Professors. 11. 6. Legislation/ regulations concerning PC education.	<div>0/16</div> <div>16/16</div> <div>N/A</div> <div>N/A</div> <div>0</div> <div>No</div>	<div></div> <p>In Ukraine there is no specialised education standard about Palliative care. The palliative medicine discipline is included in education standard under 'Medicine', 'Paediatrics', not compulsory but as selective disciplines for students of 6th year. Regarding nurses, medical colleges have a general programme in which two subjects ('Therapy' and 'Gerontology') include 20 hours of the discipline "Palliative care", nonetheless the topics are different in different colleges. In Ukraine currently there are 30 universities (16 medical ones, 14 with with medical specialties where medicine is studied). In medical schools programme for students is similar in most universities and includes 75 hours of the discipline 'Palliative care'.</p>
Ind12 Existence of an official specialisation process in palliative medicine for physicians, recognised by the competent authority in the country.	<div><div>1</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>There is no process on specialisation for palliative care physicians.</div>	<p>There is no process on specialisation for palliative care physicians.</p>

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Ind13 13.1. There is a system of specialised PC services or teams in the country that has a GEOGRAPHIC reach and is delivered through different service delivery platforms. 13.2. Are available in HOSPITALS (public or private), such as hospital PC teams (consultation teams), and PC units (with beds), to name a few examples. 13.3. Free-standing HOSPICES (including hospices with inpatient beds). 13.4. HOME CARE teams (specialised in PC) are available in the community (or at the primary Healthcare level), as independent services or linked with hospitals or hospices. 13.5. Total number of specialised PC services or teams in the country.	<div><div></div><div></div><div>3</div><div></div></div> <div>Generalised provision: Exists in many parts of the country but with some gaps.</div> <div><div>1</div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Not at all.</div> <div><div></div><div>2</div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Ad hoc/ in some parts of the country.</div> <div><div></div><div></div><div>3</div><div></div></div> <div>Found in many parts of the country.</div>	<p>Ukraine is home to 87 specialised palliative care services, (0.23 services per 100000 inhabitants.) As per October 1, 2018, there were 19 hospices (567 beds) and 68 palliative care departments in institutions of various profiles (1,626 beds) in the health care system of Ukraine. This represented and approximate coverage of 64.3% of the need. Currently, due to the war, it is hard to evaluate the number of hospices or palliative care departments: many facilities were closed or destroyed. There are different types of palliative care facilities in Ukraine. 1) Hospices state or community-like Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Palliative Care Center, 2) Hospice as part of big net of state healthcare facilities —Hospital 'Hospice' in Lviv—, 3) Private hospices, and 4) Departments of palliative care in state or private hospitals. In each region of Ukraine there are departments of palliative care in hospitals of different profile (general, oncology, etc.). Mobile groups and home care teams are created mostly as a part of the facility (hospice or primary care facility).</p> <p>RATE OF SPECIALISED PC SERVICES/100,000 INH</p> <p>MEDIAN RATE IN THE REGION</p> <p>UKRAINE 0.23</p> <p>0.96</p> <p>3.68</p> <p>MINIMUM RATE IN THE REGION</p> <p>MAXIMUM RATE IN THE REGION</p> <div>87</div> <div>← SPECIALISED PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES</div>
Ind14 14.1. There is a system of specialised PC services or teams for children in the country that has geographic reach and is delivered through different service delivery platforms. 14.2. Number of pediatric specialised PC services or teams in the country.	<div><div></div><div>2</div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>Isolated provision: palliative care specialised services or teams for children exist but only in some geographic areas.</div> <div>3</div> <div>PPC TEAMS</div>	<p>There are several palliative care units in Ukraine for children: 1) Mobile hospice for children, Western Ukrainian Specialised Children's Medical Centre, 2) Nadvirna First Children's Hospice, and 3) Children's City Polyclinic No. 6 Compass in Odesa.</p>