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**The status of long term care in Hungary
(abstract)**

The system of long term care (LTC) in Hungary cannot consider to be unified nor from professional, neither of regulation, neither of organizational, neither from financing aspect. There are considerable differences in the vocational rules of the care of people being in need of the nursing with a similar state, in health care and in social care institutions. There are also significant differences in the minimal conditions of services, in rules and measure of financing. On the one hand to LTC provided in the framework of the medical care the health insurance provides financing, while on the other hand a social care unit is entitled to a much smaller measure normative support from national budget for the same service, and the remaining part of the expenses of the service has to be covered by the owner of the institution, where that service was carried out, or by the client. The above-mentioned diversity of provision has several harmful consequences for the level of system's function, the accessibility and efficiency of services, which result low appreciation of professionals and their assistants.

There will be presented the most important statistical and financing data and drawn the conclusions for the challenges and opportunities of the period to come in Hungary.