



Republic of Moldova

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Republic of Moldova is a country with an approximate area of 34 thousand square kilometers (UNO, 2008). The population is 3,575,574 and the sex ratio (men per hundred women) is 90 (UNO, 2009). The proportion of the population under the age of 18 years is 22% and the proportion above age 60 is 11% (UNO, 2009). The literacy rate is 99% for men and 100% for women (UN Statistics, 2008). The life expectancy at birth is 64 years for males and 72 years for females (UNO, 2005-2010). The healthy life expectancy at birth is 58 years for males and 72 years for females (UNPD, 2010). The country is in the lower middle income group (based on 2010 World Bank criteria). The total expenditure on health as a percentage of gross domestic product is 11.94% and the per capita government expenditure on health (PPP int. \$) is \$113.0 (WHO, 2006). The suicide rate for males is 28.0 per 100,000 population and for females is 4.3 per 100,000 population. In the Republic of Moldova, neuropsychiatric disorders are estimated to contribute to 17.6% of the global burden of disease (WHO, 2008).

GOVERNANCE

An officially approved mental health policy does not exist. However, mental health is specifically mentioned in the general health policy.

A mental health plan exists and was approved, or most recently revised, in 2010. The mental health plan components include:

- Timelines for the implementation of the mental health plan.
- Funding allocation for the implementation of half or more of the items in the mental health plan.
- Shift of services and resources from mental hospitals to community mental health facilities.
- Integration of mental health services into primary care.

Dedicated mental health legislation exists and was initiated, or most recently revised, in 2006. Legal provisions concerning mental health are also covered in other laws (e.g., welfare, disability, general health legislation etc.).

Note: The implementation of the Mental Health Plan is partially covered by development partners and external donors.

Revision of the Mental Health Law was started in 2006, within the Stability Pact Mental Health Project, and was finalized by 2008. The new Mental Health Law number 35 was approved and published in the Official Monitor in 2008.

FINANCING

Mental health expenditures by the government health department/ministry are 3.24% of the total health budget. Mental hospital expenditures are 83.85% of the total mental health budget.

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

MENTAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Primary Care

Prescription regulations authorize primary health care doctors to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines but with restrictions. In contrast, the department of health does not authorize primary health care nurses to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. Similarly, official policy does not permit primary health care nurses to independently diagnose and treat mental disorders within the primary care system.

The majority of primary health care doctors and nurses have not received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. Officially approved manuals on the management and treatment of mental disorders are available in the majority of primary health care clinics. Official referral procedures for referring persons from primary care to secondary/tertiary care exist, as do referral procedures from tertiary/secondary to primary care.

Mental Health Services

Availability of mental health facilities

	Total number of facilities/beds	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of facilities/beds reserved for children and adolescents only	Rate per 100,000 population
Mental health outpatient facilities	54	1.51	15	0.42
Day treatment facilities	3	0.08	1	0.03
Psychiatric beds in general hospitals	30	0.84	UN	UN
Community residential facilities	UN	UN	UN	UN
Beds/places in community residential facilities	UN	UN	UN	UN
Mental hospitals	3	0.08	UN	UN
Beds in mental hospitals	2080	58.17	150	4.20

Access to care

	Rates per 100,000 population)	Females (%)	Under age 18 (%)
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	10,622.32	UN	UN
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	23.77	47%	23%
Admissions to psychiatric beds in general hospitals	3.08	UN	UN
Persons staying in community residential facilities at the end	UN	UN	UN

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

of the year			
Admissions to mental hospitals	595.90	UN	6%

Long term care in mental hospitals (% of persons staying):

Less than 1 year	36%
More than 1 and less than 5 years	59%
More than 5 years	5%

Note: Data above is unavailable as the official statistics on mental health are not disaggregated by gender and/or age.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Workforce and training

	Health professionals working in the mental health sector Rate per 100,000	Training of health professions in educational institutions Rate per 100,000
Psychiatrists	5.03	0.28
Medical doctors, not specialized in psychiatry	1.76	9.79
Nurses	16.61	30.76
Psychologists	0.45	UN
Social workers	UN	UN
Occupational therapists	UN	NA
Other health workers	28.22	NA

Informal human resources (Family and User Associations)

	User	Family
Present in the country?	Yes	Yes
Number of members	UN	UN
Participation in the formulation/implementation of policy/plan/legislation?	not routinely	not routinely

Note: Psychiatric training for some nurses and psychologists is provided by non-governmental organizations, but these trainings are not accredited in Moldova. Social workers are not involved in medical services.

There are several associations for families of children with disabilities, including mental health problems.

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

MEDICINES

Expenditures for medicines for mental and behavioral disorders at country level

Type of Medicines	Expenditures at country level per year and per 100,000 population (in USD)
All the psychotherapeutic medicines ¹	55,838
Medicines used for bipolar disorders ²	6,069
Medicines for psychotic disorders ³	19,422
Medicines used for general anxiety ⁴	14,566
Medicines used for mood disorders ⁵	15,780

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

	Data on number of people/ activities are collected and reported	Data on age and gender are collected and reported	Data on patient's diagnosis are collected and reported
Persons with mental disorders treated in primary health care	Yes	No	Yes
Interventions (psychopharmacological and psychosocial) delivered in primary health care for people with mental disorders	Yes	No	Yes
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	No	Yes
Contacts in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	No	Yes
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	Yes	No	Yes
Admissions in general hospitals with psychiatric beds	Yes	No	Yes
Admissions in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Days spent in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in community residential facilities	No	No	No

Note: Moldova made attempts to introduce the Integrated Medical Information Systems, but was not successful. The existing information system collects some mental health data, but the indicators are not very informative.

¹ N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

² N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

³ N05A (excluding N05AN)

⁴ N05B & N05C

⁵ N06A

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

Mental health data (either on the public system, private system, or both) have been compiled for general health statistics in the last three years, but not in a specific mental health report.

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable