

Distr.  
GENERAL

CES/AC.36/1998/32 (Summary)  
EUR/ICP/INFO 020603/32

31 July 1998

Original: ENGLISH

**STATISTICAL COMMISSION and  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE**

**CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

Joint ECE-WHO Meeting on Health Statistics  
(Rome, Italy, 14-16 October 1998)

SESSION II: The role of IT in collecting health information

**DEVELOPMENT OF DATA PRESENTATION SYSTEM IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

Supporting paper submitted by the Institute of Health Information and  
Statistics of the Czech Republic<sup>1</sup>

**Summary**

In discussions how to help the countries of Central and Eastern Europe in the process of transforming their systems including health care, the idea came forward to create tools helping the managers in health care in their decisions. Since one of the indispensable conditions of good management is availability of adequate timely information in user-friendly form, the project Care Support was designed within the EU/WHO Copernicus programme and under the auspices of WHO, with the aim to create a Data Presentation System (DPS). The development of this system and its implementation in the Czech Republic is the subject of this contribution.

The software of DPS was created in two modifications (for DOS and for Windows) by Lithuanian Health Information Centre in Vilnius in close collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for Europe, and further improved according to remarks from the participating countries.

The Czech Republic represented by the Institute for Health Information and Statistics had several tasks. The first was to fill the database of indicators, which was an exacting and difficult work (more than 500

---

<sup>1</sup> Prepared by J. Holub and Z. Kamborská.

indicators for the years 1970-1990 in 5 year interval and annually after 1990, and for 76 administrative units - districts). Further, it was necessary to prepare a Czech version of the existing software, its propagation and distribution. At the same time, it was necessary to instruct the potential users about the meaning of the indicators and using the DPS. To this end, we prepared several methodical booklets and a series of instruction seminars.

Among the main users are District Health Administrators. The programme was also distributed to hospital directors, to interested officers of the Ministry of Health, to representatives of faculties of medicine and science, and also to medical societies. A special group of users are the district statisticians who provide information to various users in their districts.

In the last few months the DPS system in the CR passed from the phase of implementation and testing to almost routine usage. the response from the users is mostly positive and guarantees further exploitation and development of the DPS.