



# **The Jednorodne Grupy Pacjentów – Polish experiences with DRGs**



**EuroDRG Final Conference Berlin  
17 th of November 2011**

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## **The Polish health care system**

- Poland has a mixed system of public and private health care financing.
- Total health expenditure amounts to about €667 per capita per year, which corresponds to 6.6 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP)

# Purpose of the DRG system



- Prior to the introduction of DRG-system in Poland, hospital payment was based on a 'Catalogue of Health Care Products'
- Health care products were defined through specific diagnoses or procedures, and hospitals received a flat payment per admission based on the point value of a given product.
- The system was not based on systematic coding of all the diagnoses and procedures of the patients.
- The definitions of products changed every year and the number of items in the catalogue continued to increase, the system lacked transparency.

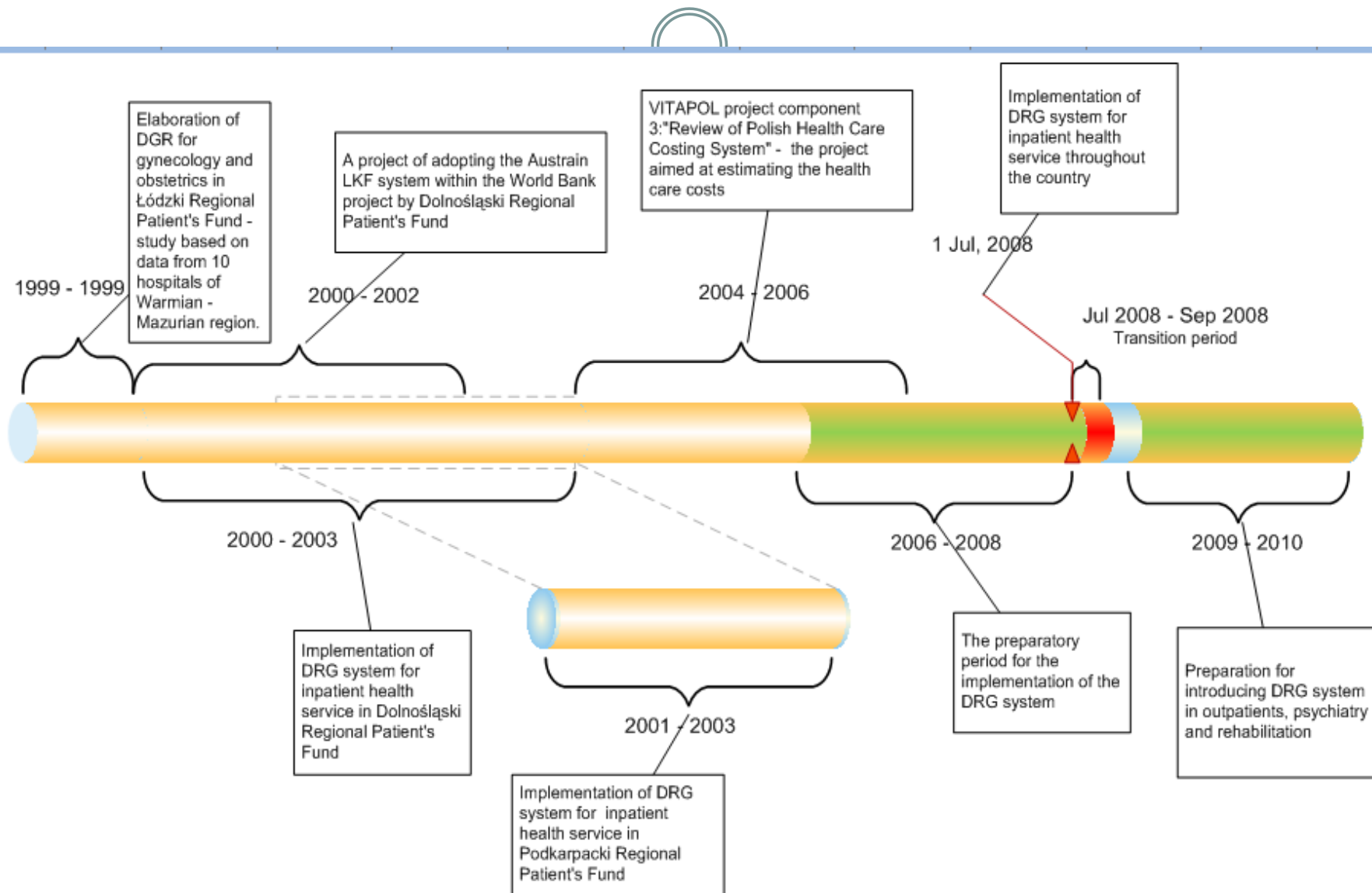
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The main goals of introducing DRG-based hospital payment in Poland were:

- to improve resource allocation to hospitals,
- to increase transparency of service provision.

# Timeline: introduction of the national JGP system in Poland and prior sub-national uses of DRGs



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- In July 2008, a national DRG system was introduced in Poland.
- The British Healthcare Resource Groups (HRGs) (Version 3.5) served as the starting point for the JGP system.
- Each JGP represents a distinct group of patients with similar characteristics (for example, diagnoses, procedures, patient age) and similar resource-consumption patterns.

# Differences between British HRGs and Polish JGPs

|                                 | British HRGs (ver 3.5)                    | Polish JGPs  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Procedure classification system | OPCS                                      | ICD-9-PL   |
| Selection of dominant procedure | Groupers selects highest ranked procedure | Provider selects most relevant procedure of hospital stay                            |
| Poly-trauma cases               | Included in 'Pre-MDC'-like group          | No specific groups. JGP score is inflated depending on the number of affected organs |
| Pediatric cases                 | Specific section only for neonates        | Separate section for pediatrics  |
| Number of chapters/sections     | 19  | 16   |
| Number of groups                | 610                                       | 518  |

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- All hospitals (public and private) that have contracts with the NFZ must classify their patients using JGPs.
- The system covers only hospital inpatient services and differentiates between emergency admissions, planned admissions and day-care treatment episodes.
- Rehabilitation is only partly included in the JGP system.
- In October 2010 the NFZ started to introduce JPGs for neurological and cardiological rehabilitation patients treated at hospitals.