

# Italian pediatric primary care system

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# Italian PPC system



- The Italian NHS requires that all children have an identified primary care provider, either a pediatrician or a family practitioner, depending on the patient's age.
- PCPs work in their own private offices, providing primary care of patients from birth to 14 years of age and are compensated under a capitation system .
- PCPs are the only patient entrance to NHS secondary and tertiary care in the 0 to 6 age range
- Parents can choose between a pediatrician or a general practitioner for their children's care between 6 and 16 years of age.
- The most part of the pediatricians are located in larger towns with more than 5000 inhabitants.

# Italian PPC system



- The pediatric coverage: 95% in 0-6 year age group, 44% in the total 0 - 14 years age group,
- PCPs taking care of more than 4million patients 0-14 years of age.
- Care provided: acute, chronic and preventive care, through both office and home visits.
- Every PCP takes care for 880- 1000 patients
- The availability for patients is from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday to Friday and 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday.
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- Visits performed 4000-4500 visits/year.
- From 55% of solo practices in 1978 till 60% associated pediatricians practices 2013

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PPCs responsibilities:

- acute ambulatory and home care
- coordinating care of chronically ill patients,
- consulting with subspecialties,
- performing well baby health checks
- certifications for school activities, parent's absence from work, indemnities, and social welfare.

# Italian PPC system



- Pediatricians, as well as general practitioners in the Italian NHS, are not allowed by law to take care of their patients during hospital admissions.
- Limited access to hospital based diagnostic services

# PCPs weaknesses



- 7.000 total number PCPs mean age : 55 years
- Ever less new entries
- No PCP specializations at the University
- For economic crisis, growing requests from politics of taking care, with no more money, like: night and weekend coverage to all patients.

Thank you for attention