

AND NOW?

Speaker: Olivier VÉRAN, Minister of Solidarities and Health | France

Interviewed by **Guy VALLANCIEN**, President of CHAM | France

Ségur of health, so what?

Feedback from the health crisis we are going through has enabled us to develop the Ségur of Health with proposals that are adapted to today's challenges. Among the most impactful:

- ▶ Telemedicine: Keep encouraging teleconsultations in order to meet the strong demand revealed by the crisis, as they have skyrocketed from 10,000 to over one million per week.
- ▶ Residential facilities for dependent elderly people: Their medicalization, the intervention of private doctors and the increased introduction of home care as well as a tightening the bond with the hospital system.
- ▶ Salary measures: €8.2 billion for more than 1.5 million caregivers to improve job attractiveness and improve hiring potential, as well as restore meaning to all healthcare stakeholders.

Also, with the aim of improving the relevance and quality of medical and nursing practices, a new "collective commitment" system plans to pay each member of the medical and paramedical team hired in the hospital a net amount of €100, based on commitments to quality, relevance and organization of the patient's path. The extension to other remunerations based on public health objectives and the implementation of peer reviews are also on the agenda, as well as the development of success indicators and adapted measurement tools in order to strengthen an evaluation policy.

Lastly, establishing a prevention policy that is not intrusive or restrictive for the population is a must. The Ségur of health relies on a multi-professional committee of experts capable of submitting recommendations that consider health, environmental, economic, social and cultural aspects in particular, in order to obtain a real proposal of transformation by spring 2021.

Improving health system governance

Regarding the governance of the current system, the main objective is to relax tight local regulatory framework. The main goal is to restore hospital services and maintain hospital clusters based on population needs. The departmental scale of Regional Health Agencies must be strengthened to ensure greater proximity with the healthcare stakeholders.

Strengthening the role of local authorities will be possible through a deconcentrating of the decision-making in the healthcare system rather than its decentralization. Indeed, the centralized character of the healthcare system was quite effective during the crisis and it is therefore necessary to strengthen it. The Regional Health Agencies will see their roles strengthened as will those of the local authorities. The latter will take part in roundtable discussions and decision-making process regarding healthcare projects and their financing; and prefects and elected officials will be more involved in the governance of Agencies, most markedly through a seat on the boards of directors.

Within the healthcare institutions themselves, team management is to be improved a priority shift towards managerial qualities of the people in charge rather than their medical professional skills. Training in management and economics is thus essential, it already exists and is tending to become the standard. A common base of training should also be considered so that all healthcare professionals have a general understanding of how their colleagues operate.

A Europe of health and a sovereign France in terms of digital technology

The Health EU is a way to get closer to the population and must have several objectives:

- ▶ Sovereignty, regarding medicine and protective equipment manufacturing
- ▶ Innovation/research, through research teams coordination and European funds
- ▶ Social security, in order to move towards common rules in terms of social protection
- ▶ Inequalities and public health, by designing and implementing a structure capable of setting public health objectives and further integrating health policies in all European countries in order to reduce inequalities.

France, for its part, has very good digital health players who have enabled the development of its own structures such as "StopCovid" and "Si-Dep" in record time, thus demonstrating national sovereignty in terms of the digital economy. French Investment plan previews to support the digital innovation in order to help healthcare stakeholders and improve the interoperability of their IT systems.