The pharmaceutical system in the Republic of Macedonia in the in- and out-patient sector

### Pricing policies for medicines

- **Wholesale mark-ups**
  - Regressive scheme wholesales mark-ups 9-15% of medicines cost

- **Pharmacy mark-ups**
  - Regressive scheme mark-ups 15-30% of medicines cost

- **VAT**
  - Standard rate 18%
  - Reduced rate for medicines 5%

- **Reforms**
  - Law on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices (2007)
  - Transformation of the Bureau of Medicines into Medicines Agency (2010)
  - Modifications in the Law on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices – erased articles on fixed mark-ups (2010)
  - Modifications in Rules on Determination of Prices of Medicinal Products according to the modifications of the Medicines Law – in process (2011)

### Reimbursement

- **Positive List of Medicines for in-patients and out-patients** (with different codes)
  - 440 INN with more than 765 forms and strengths
  - Reference pricing system since 2007

- **Co-payment includes**:
  - Regressive scheme according to the medicines reference prices, not more than 20%
  - Difference between reimbursed price and fixed price

- **Reforms**
  - Introduction of Reference pricing system (2007)

- **Mechanisms for vulnerable groups**
  - Exempted from participation: special-needs children and particular categories of citizens according to specific government programmes

- **Positive List for in-patient sector**
  - 278 INN and more than 390 forms and strengths with specific code for hospital use

- **Pharmacy mark-ups**
  - Hospitals get budgets from the HIF and use part of it for medicines procurement
  - Hospitals make their medicines procurement plan and produce therapeutic formularies
  - Hospital pharmacies are part of the hospitals, no service fee is paid to them

- **Reforms**
  - Reference pricing system (2007)
  - Central procurement of hospital medicines by HIF tenders until 2007
  - Decentralized hospital procurement in line with the Law for public procurement (2007)