



## PRESS RELEASE

November 27, 2014

### **Hellenic Private Hospitals Association:**

#### **Enough with the fairy tales!**

#### **Services to patients insured by the National Organization for the Provisional Healthcare (EOPYY) are suspended from 1-12-14 till all overdue debts are paid**

The Members of the Hellenic Private Hospitals Association decided to withhold from medical services provided to patients insured by the EOPYY from 1-12-14 onwards till all overdue EOPYY's debts are paid.

This action was decided as a final effort to save thousands of jobs that we provide and to save our businesses from bankruptcy due to:

- ✓ EOPYY's inability to achieve proper financial planning
- ✓ The repeated breach of contractual obligations on the part of EOPYY
- ✓ The ongoing fraud

While EOPYY owes us:

- More than 100.000.000€ of overdue debts (from 2006 to 2011), although these money have been received by the State through loans since 2012
- More than 30.000.000€, having not cleared off the rest debt from 2012
- More than 100.000.000€ owed from the year 2013. (there are only prepayments paid for the months JAN – AUG 2013)
- More than 80.000.000€ from the year 2014



Being fully aware of our responsibility towards Greek citizens, our employees, our suppliers and partners, we declare that we will do everything in order to put an end to the ongoing plans of annihilation of Private Health Sector in Greece.

- We have exhausted every possibility of achieving an agreement
- We tabled functional and applicable proposals
- We proposed and funded our audit by independent audit firms
- We tolerated the mudslinging and slander by which the State attempted to mislead the public opinion
- We continue to suffer from unilateral, unconstitutional and totalitarian violations of our agreements with EOPYY, that usurp the labour of thousands of scientists and workers who staff our hospitals, underpricing, arbitrarily and retrospectively, at 30% of its already noticeably underpriced value

Our request was and remains simple: We want a stable convention with EOPYY that will be adhered and that will fully and in time remunerate us for the services provided to patients insured by EOPYY.

It must be clear that Private Hospitals have an additional function to the Public Healthcare Sector, servicing thousands of patients -insured by EOPYY- throughout the country, covering the needs that the Public Healthcare Sector is not able to cover. This continuous mockery from the part of the State is not only threatening our businesses but also endangers its own citizens, that trust private hospitals to ensure their health status.

Therefore, from Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, and until the overdue debts of the Organization, are fully paid, members of the Hellenic Private Hospitals Association will not provide their services to those insured by EOPYY, with the exception of Hemodialysis Units, and incidents that regard hospitalization in neonatal intensive-care units and incidents regarding inpatients already hospitalized (before 01-12-2014) that need care in Intensive Therapy Units.



## SEK

The Hellenic Private Hospitals Association represents the largest private clinics which offer high-end healthcare services throughout the country. The members of SEK are among the largest employers in Greece and among the biggest contributors to the Greek economy, and are actively supporting the needs of the state healthcare system.

## THE PRIVATE HEALTHCARE SECTOR IN GREECE

The private sector employs more than 25,000 workers, maintains more than 30,000 job positions through indirect collaborations and invests in the viable growth of new infrastructures, new medical protocols and new technologies. Covering 39% of the country's healthcare services, the private healthcare sector is averting the "brain drain" that's been plaguing our country during these times; by keeping valuable scientists here, it contributes significantly to the country's GDP and it is making Greece a destination for medical tourism. It supplements the public healthcare sector, but also performs hi-tech operations and medical procedures that the state is unable to provide, thus fulfilling a pivotal role in ensuring public health in Greece.