



### **NIK: 'health needs' maps' contain unreliable data**

According to an inspection by the Supreme Audit Office [PL: NIK ], the so-called 'health needs' maps' contain a number of unreliable and frequently obsolete information from the years 2012-2013. NIK notes that the maps were developed in order to try to rationalize the health care system in Poland and also to meet EU requirements, which made the payment of PLN 12bn, in the 2014-2020 perspective, conditional upon initiation of work to rebuild the health care system, including the development of 'health needs' maps', to be used to adopt system resources to future, expected needs. Oncology and cardiology experts, as well as some provincial governors, have confirmed low quality of data used in the maps. NIK also notes that the 'hospital chain' project was determined on the basis of formal criteria set forth by the Health Minister, without taking into account the health needs' maps and the recommendations arising from these documents. More on this can be found [HERE](#)

### **Alivia foundation wants more transparency in the financing and operations of patient organizations**

Oncology Foundation Alivia has approached Patients' Ombudsman asking him to regulate the requirements relating to transparency of the relationships between patient organizations and public institutions, as part of work on the new Law On Patient Rights. Among other proposals, it is seeking to publicize the amounts and percentage of financing received by patient organizations from the providers of medical services, pharma sector companies and public institutions, public disclosure of the pay received by executive and supervisory board members of these NGOs from these sources and the acceptance of documents which guarantee actual representation of members of patients' associations.

### **New president of the Polish Cardio-Diabetological Association**

Colonel, professor Leszek Markuszewski, M.D., Ph.D., a cardiologist, diabetologist and a specialist in internal medicine, sports medicine and rehabilitation, became president of the Polish Cardio-Diabetological Association. Professor Markuszewski is a graduate of the Department of Medicine at the Military Medical Academy, Post-graduate Studies at the Department of Management at the University of Lodz and at the Law Department of the University of Warsaw.

## **Inflation in Poland is going up**

In April the index of consumer goods and services was up by 0.5% on a month-to-month basis, or 1.6% on an annual basis, the Main Office of Statistics [PL: GUS] said. Compared to the same period last year, according to GUS, in April prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages went up by 4.1%, alcohol and tobacco by 1.7%, home-related prices by 2%, health care by 1.4%, education (2.1%), restaurants and hotels (2.8%), recreation and culture (0.9%) and telecommunications (up by 0.1%). Prices of clothing and footwear fell by 3.8%, transportation by 0.1% and other goods and services by 0.7%.

**Polish GDP in 1Q18 rose by 1.6% q/q and by 5.1% on a y-o-y basis**, according to preliminary GUS estimates. The number is better than expected by economists, who estimated GDP growth at 1.3% q/q and 4.9% on a y-o-y basis. According to the economists, GDP growth rate close to 5%, seen in recent quarters, won't last. The European Commission expects Poland's GDP growth to slow down to 4.3% this year and 3.7% in 2019. Meanwhile, according to preliminary GUS estimates, GDP in 2017 totaled PLN 1.982bn.

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