

## **National Standard**

Country	Detention Issues	Key provision	Legal Instrument	NPM Recommendation	NPM Recommendation year	NPM report URL
Bulgaria	Healthcare	<p>Prisoners, who have requested a medical examination, must be seen by a doctor within 24 hours.</p> <p>Prisoners with temperature, traumas or in another emergency condition must be seen by a doctor immediately at any time. At least once per year all prisoners must undergo annual prophylactic examinations, fluorography and laboratory tests, and receive all mandatory immunisations and re-immunisations.</p> <p>Prisoners who do not agree with their diagnosis or the prescribed treatment can request consultation with a specialist from another medical establishment at their own expense.</p>	Execution of Penalties and Detention in Custody Act (Закон за изпълнение на наказанията и задържане под стража)	<p>In 2017 the focus of the inspections conducted by the NPM was on communicable diseases. Pursuant to Article 140, paras 2 and 3 Execution of Penalties and Detention in Custody Act, all prisoners are provided with the possibility to make voluntary, anonymous or confidential consultations and tests for HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS tests are appointed also by the director of the hospital or the medical care centre. In those cases the prisoner may refuse to perform the test. In practice, this activity is not funded by the Ministry of Justice and the newly admitted inmates are not offered the opportunity to conduct HIV/AIDS tests. It is relied on tests performed by the Regional Health Inspections under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections in the Republic of Bulgaria 2017-2020. The prisons in Sliven and Stara Zagora have good practices. The Regional Health Inspections conduct HIV/AIDS tests once a month there. No HIV/AIDS tests have been made in the prisons in Varna, Vratsa, Pazardzhik, Plovdiv, Sofia and Lovech. In all prisons there is a designated medical staff member for combatting tuberculosis who works under the National Programme for Prevention and Early Detection of Tuberculosis in the Republic of Bulgaria. After the Programme was introduced, a down trend of instances of tuberculosis has been observed.</p>	2017	<a href="https://www.ombudsman.bg/national-prevention/4679">https://www.ombudsman.bg/national-prevention/4679</a>

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