

Akaki Zoidze, MD

Key Qualifications and Experience

Over 25 years of experience as an international expert in health policy and health reforms focusing on health system financing with strong understanding of performance-based funding models in the health sector. More than 11 years of experience in high level national and international policy-making and leading or active participation in public policy development, high level policy dialogue, public service restructuring and number of major health and social system reform efforts in Georgia and up to 15 countries of the Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Strong expertise in systems' and programs' evaluation including the evaluation conceptualization, methodology design, evaluation framework development, triangulation and analyses. Contributing to health systems research and the knowledge translation for health policymaking as an author of number of publications in peer reviewed journals concerning the health insurance, health systems in transition, health financing reform, primary health care and hospital financing, etc. More than 10 years of experience in teaching Evidence Based Health Policy and Health Systems at the International Public Health School of the Tbilisi State Medical University.

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Lecturer, leads module on Health Systems and Evidence Based Health Policy for postgraduate students at International Public Health School of Tbilisi State Medical University, Georgia.	2008-present
Elected member and Chair of the Healthcare and Social Issues Committee of the Parliament of Georgia	Oct 2016 - Dec 2019
Senior Expert, Member of the Board of Directors at Curatio International Foundation	2004-2016
Deputy State (Prime) Minister in the Government of Georgia.	2001-2003
Deputy Minister at Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia	June 1999 - Dec 2001
Head of the Social Insurance and Programs Management Department at Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia	Jan 1998 - June 2000
Assistant to the Minister of Health at Ministry of Health of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia.	Jan 1998 - Oct 1999
Project Coordinator at Kaiser Permanente International, Oakland, USA	May 1997 - Jan 1998
Medical Director at the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)	Oct 1994 - Aug 1995
National Medical Coordinator at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Mar 1994 - Oct 1994
Physician Neurologist, Junior Scientific Worker- Department of Angio-neurology, Institute of Clinical and Experimental Neurology	1991 - 1994

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- 2016-2019: Parliament of Georgia. Initiated and/or led the initiation, policy dialogue, legislative process and adoption of number of key pieces of legislation, including the Parliamentary Statement on long-term vision and policy goals for health and social systems of the country, a package of groundbreaking tobacco control legislation, occupational safety laws and fundamental pension reform legislation, introducing the mandatory fully funded pension scheme in Georgia.

Role: Member of the Parliament and Chair of the Healthcare and Social Issues Committee of Georgia.

- 2019: Gov of Armenia. Participated in the parliamentary hearings and provided policy advice on the tobacco control legislation for the Republic of Armenia. Role: WHO advisor
- 2018: Gov of Armenia. Provided policy advice on the introduction of the social health insurance and single payer system health sector in Armenia. Role: the World Bank advisor
- 2015: Gov of Kazakhstan. Provided external technical assistance to reform the financing system of the national tuberculosis (TB) programme in Kazakhstan in the context of extending outpatient TB treatment. Role: Health systems expert
- 2015: MoH Georgia. Health systems component development for the Global Fund. Role: Health systems expert
- 2010-2015: the WB PIU/MoH Kazakhstan. Twinning Arrangement for Health Finance Capacity Building and Strengthening Strategic Purchasing. Role: Key health care financing expert. Provided technical assistance for transferring international best practice in purchasing of health services for the development of the purchasing function in the health sector, including advising on the appropriate model for purchaser-provider split; organization of the purchasing function at central (MoH) and Regional Levels; regulatory role of the MoH, provider autonomy, Case-Mix/DRG methods, and Results Based Financing (RBF), or performance based incentive schemes. Providing recommendations on selection of specific performance indicators and measures and drafting legislation supporting the RBF for primary health care.
- 2013: Provision of Technical Assistance to Support the Design of the Country Strategy Paper and Multi-Annual Indicative Program Governing EU Assistance in Tajikistan during the Next Multi-Annual Financial Framework (2014-2020) Dushanbe, Tajikistan; Role: Health Specialist. Provided support to the EU Delegation: (a) in drafting and finalizing the Country Strategy Paper (health sector section); (b) conducting in-depth analysis and elaboration of Health Sector Strategy Paper.
- 2011- 2012. Turkey Health Sector Review, CGC/ACODESS/EIB. Role: Health consultant. Contributed to the review of the Turkish Health Sector to establish feasibility of the Private-Public Partnerships. Developed comprehensive assessment of the health indicators, health financing and health services delivery functions.
- 2013. Draft a Business Plan in Moldova. Role: Leading the development of scenarios for organizing Rehabilitation and Long Term Care (RLTC) service models for the Republic of Moldova. Elaborating detailed business plan for the development of the scenario selected by the Government of Moldova, including exploration of feasibility of at least three options for the Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in financing the implementation of the RLTC service model in the Northern Region of the country. For each PPP option developing feasibility study including legal, economic, financial and technical assessments
- 2012. Health Sector Strategy Development – MannionDaniels, Ltd/WHO, Nairobi -Kenya and Mogadishu, Hargeysa, Garoowe, Somalia. Role: Health Financing Expert. Assisted the MoH in elaborating health financing reform component of the health sector strategic plans for three zones of Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland and SC Somalia), designed and applied the costing tool in costing the health sector strategic plans.
- 2008-2010. EU funded Primary Health Care Reform Support Project (PHCRSP), Georgia, MoLHSA Georgia, Consultant for Final Evaluation. Conducted final evaluation of the EU funded PHCRSP (5

mIn Eur) and provided recommendations on the feasibility of the Sector Budget Support in health sector of Georgia.

- 2008 – 2010. Health System Performance Assessment (HSPA), Georgia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Consultant Assisted high level working groups of the MoH of Azerbaijan in preparation of the health financing and health sector optimization reform concepts and strategies and made significant contribution in the development and endorsement of the Presidential Decree on approval of the Health Financing Reform Concept and Creation of a new Health Financing Agency. Provided recommendations on the design of the Pay for Performance (performance-based incentive schemes) mechanisms for health providers in 5 pilot regions of Azerbaijan.

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2016-present: ‘Designing and Evaluating Provider Results-Based Financing for Tuberculosis Care in Georgia: Understanding Costs, Mechanisms of Effect and Impact (Results4TB). £748,935, Role: Principal Investigator (**PI**)
- 2014-2015: Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research. Implementation Research: taking Results-Based Financing from scheme to system – Armenia Results-Based Financing Case Study. \$74,930, Role: **PI**
- 2014-2015: UNICEF Regional Office. Progress in Reducing Health System Bottlenecks towards Achieving the MDG 4 Goal: Evaluation of UNICEF Contribution in 5 CEE/CIS Countries. \$189,842 Role: **Co-Investigator**
- 2015: Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, Sustainability of GAVI Supported program in Albania, \$67,785. Role: **PI**
- 2014: Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, Sustainability of GAVI Supported program in Bosnia-Herzegovina, \$125,677. Role: **PI**
- 2011: Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research. Assessing efforts towards universal financial risk protection in low- and middle-income countries Insurance for Poor: Georgia’s Path to Universal Coverage. A Case Study, \$50,951. Role: **PI**

EDUCATION

Health Policy Graduate of Professional Development Program of Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs, New York, USA	1996-1997
MD Residency in Neurology at the Institute of Clinical and Experimental Neurology, Tbilisi, Georgia	1991-1993
MD Magna Cum Laude, Faculty of General Medicine, Tbilisi State Medical University, Tbilisi, Georgia	1985-1991

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. Chikovani, I., Diaconu, K., Duric, P. Sulaberidze, L., Uchaneishvili, M., Nuredin, I.M., **Zoidze, A.**, Witter, S. Addressing challenges in tuberculosis adherence via performance-based payments for integrated case management: protocol for a cluster randomized controlled trial in Georgia. *Trials* 20, 536 (2019) doi:10.1186/s13063-019-3621-z
2. Petrosyan V, Melkomian D, **Zoidze A**, Shroff ZC. National Scale-Up of Results-Based Financing in Primary Health Care: The Case of Armenia. *Health Systems & Reform*. 2017;3(2):117-28.

3. Gotsadze G , Tang W , Shengelia N , **Zoidze A** Determinants analysis of outpatient service utilization in Georgia: can the approach help inform benefit package design? Health Res Policy Sys May 2017;15:36.doi:10.1186/s12961-017-0197-5
4. Gotsadze G. **Zoidze A**, Rukhadze N, Shengelia N, Chkhaidze N. An impact evaluation of medical insurance for poor in Georgia: preliminary results and policy implications. Apr 2015 · Health Policy and Planning
5. Gotsadze G, Murphy A, Shengelia N, **Zoidze A**. Healthcare utilization and expenditures for chronic and acute conditions in Georgia: Does benefit package design matter? BMC Health Serv Res. 2015;15:88
6. **Zoidze A**, Rukhadze N, Chkhatarashvili K, Gotsadze G. Promoting Universal Financial Protection: Health Insurance for the Poor in Georgia – A case study. BMC Health Policy and Research. 2013. 11:45. URL: <http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content/11/1/45>
7. Gotsadze G., **Zoidze A.**, Rukhadze N., Factors Determining Catastrophic Health Expenditure: Evidence from Georgia and its Policy Implications. BMC Health Services Research 2009, Vol. 9
8. Djibuti M, Gotsadze G., Mataradze G., **Zoidze A**. Influence of Household Demographic and Socio-Economic Factors on Household Expenditure on Tobacco in Six New Independent States. BMC Public Health 2007, 7:222 (30 August 2007).
9. **Zoidze A**, Gotsadze G, Cameron S., 2006, An Overview of Health in Transition Countries, International Hospital Federation Reference Book 2006/2007.
10. Gotsadze G., Cashin C., **Zoidze A.**, Valdin J., 2005, Descriptive background to health care financing reform strategy development in Georgia. HCF Discussion paper No. 1. CoReform Project. Tbilisi. Georgia.
11. Gotsadze G, **Zoidze A**, Vasadze O. Reform strategies in Georgia and their impact on health care provision in rural areas: evidence from a household survey. Journal of Social Sciences and Medicine. Vol 60/4 pp 809-821.
12. Gotsadze G, Mataradze G, **Zoidze A**. Hospital Sector Reform and Its Implications on HRD. Human Resources for Health Development Journal. Vol. 3, # 3, Nonthaburi, Thailand. 1999
13. Jorbenadze A, **Zoidze A**, Gzirishvili D, Gotsadze G. Health Reform and Hospital Financing in Georgia. Croatian Medical Journal. Vol 15. Zagreb, Croatia. 1998
14. **Zoidze A**, Gzirishvili D, Gotsadze G. Hospital Financing Study in Georgia. Abt Publications, Bethesda, MD. USA. 1998.
15. Gzirishvili D. **Zoidze A**. Reimbursement Mechanisms for Hospitals. National Health Management Centre, Tbilisi. Georgia. 1998.