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# WOMEN'S HEALTH IN UZBEKISTAN IS A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF STATE POLICY

Aliyeva Fotima

Master's Student of Karshi State University

N. Toshtemirov

Associate Professor of Karshi State University

### Annotation

Ushbu maqolada O'zbekistonda xotin-qizlar salomatligini muhofaza qilish davlat siyosatining ustuvor yo'nalishi sifatida yoritilgan. Ayollar salomatligini mustahkamlashga qaratilgan islohotlar, onalik va bolalikni muhofaza qilish tizimi, reproduktiv salomatlikni ta'minlash hamda tibbiy xizmatlar sifatini oshirish masalalari tahlil qilingan. Shuningdek, xotin-qizlarning jismoniy va ruhiy sog'ligini asrash jamiyat taraqqiyoti va sog'lom avlodni shakllantirishdagi muhim omil ekani asoslab berilgan.

**Kalit so'zlar:** xotin-qizlar salomatligi, davlat siyosati, onalik va bolalik, reproduktiv salomatlik, sog'lom avlod.

### Аннотация

В данной статье рассматривается охрана здоровья женщин в Узбекистане как одно из приоритетных направлений государственной политики. Проанализированы проводимые реформы в сфере здравоохранения, система охраны материнства и детства, обеспечение репродуктивного здоровья и повышение качества медицинских услуг. Подчёркивается

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значение физического и психического здоровья женщин в обеспечении благополучия семьи и устойчивого развития общества.

**Ключевые слова:** здоровье женщин, государственная политика, материнство и детство,

### Annotation

This article examines the protection of women's health in Uzbekistan as a key priority of state policy. It analyzes reforms aimed at strengthening maternal and child healthcare, ensuring reproductive health, and improving the quality of medical services. The article emphasizes that women's physical and mental well-being plays a crucial role in family stability, social development, and the formation of a healthy generation.

**Keywords:** women's health, state policy, maternal and child health, reproductive health, healthy generation.

### Introduction

**For a human being, the greatest wealth is health.** Therefore, in recent years, special attention has been paid in Uzbekistan to strengthening public health. In particular, protecting women's health has become one of the key priorities of state policy. As a result of the measures being implemented in this area, the quality of medical services provided to women has been improving year by year, and the volume of funds allocated to the sector has also been increasing significantly.

After gaining independence, large-scale reforms were launched in the healthcare system, as in all other sectors of the country. A solid legal framework aimed at protecting public health was created. In particular, the Law "On the Protection of the Health of Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan," adopted on August 26, 1996, guaranteed citizens' rights to healthcare by the state, defined measures for promoting a healthy lifestyle, and regulated activities in the medical sector.

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Since 2017, attention to women's health has been further strengthened, and this issue has been elevated to the level of a key state task. The regular discussion of issues related to women's and children's health during meetings between deputies and voters demonstrates the relevance and urgency of this matter.

On November 9, 2018, under the chairmanship of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, a videoconference meeting was held to analyze the results of reforms aimed at developing the healthcare system, ensuring access to quality medical services for the population in the regions, strengthening the material and technical base of medical institutions, and determining priority tasks for the future.

The Head of State emphasized that the main goal of all reforms is to improve people's lives, and that quality medical services play a crucial role in this process. Over the following two years, 50 presidential decrees, resolutions, and orders related to the healthcare sector, as well as more than 70 resolutions and orders of the Cabinet of Ministers, were adopted. Six new scientific and practical medical centers were established, increasing their total number to sixteen. To improve accessibility, ten regional branches of these centers were opened. In district and city hospitals, 306 new specialized departments and 1,200 emergency medical service units were launched.

Overall, in the current year, state budget allocations to the healthcare sector increased by 40 percent compared to 2017. At the meeting, it was noted that funding for the sector is planned to increase by nearly 30 percent in the following year.

Another positive development in the sector was the Presidential Resolution adopted in 2018 titled "On Measures to Strengthen Material Incentives for Employees of State Medical Institutions and Healthcare Management Bodies." According to this resolution, the salaries of medical workers were increased by 20 percent starting from December 1, and by an additional 15 percent from April 1, 2019.

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In recent years, concrete practical measures have been taken to restore and protect women's health. In particular, while 1,153 women received free high-tech medical surgeries in 2021, this figure increased fivefold in 2022. That is, 100 billion soums were allocated to provide high-tech medical assistance to 6,000 women. In addition, more than 10,000 women with disabilities across the republic are being provided with rehabilitation equipment. These measures are aimed at restoring women's health and maintaining their active role in society.

At videoconference meetings chaired by the President, special attention has also been paid to supporting women and strengthening their status in society. In particular, it was planned that during 2022–2025, 207 maternity complexes and 46 interdistrict perinatal centers would be fully renovated and equipped with modern medical equipment. This will further improve the system of maternal and child healthcare.

In addition, when the need for medical assistance is identified for women included in the "Women's Register" and their underage children, their health conditions are assessed by local officials and doctors of primary healthcare institutions, and the necessary medical services are provided.

The "Detect Early – Save Lives" forum, held in Tashkent on October 25, 2025, became an event of great importance not only for the medical community but for society as a whole.

This forum was organized within the framework of the implementation of the Presidential Resolution of November 22, 2024, "On Measures to Improve the System of Control over Oncological Diseases among Women." Based on this resolution, a national program for 2025–2030 was approved, which includes the following areas: early detection and prevention of oncological diseases among women, expansion of screening programs, modernization of medical equipment, improvement of medical staff qualifications, and increasing public awareness of a healthy lifestyle.

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This program serves as a practical embodiment of the concept of protecting women's health at the level of national security.

On November 14, 2024, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev reviewed proposals aimed at early detection and effective treatment of diseases in the country. According to the Presidential Press Service, over the past seven years, the volume of financial resources allocated to this area has increased sixfold.

To ensure early detection of diseases among the population, specialized oncology, endocrinology, and cardiology centers regularly conduct screening examinations in the regions. As a result, 1.7 million women underwent medical examinations, and precancerous conditions were identified in 49,000 of them. In the first six months of the current year, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes were detected at an early stage in 122,000 citizens.

Analyses show that, on average, 20–25 percent of all oncological diseases are accounted for by breast and cervical cancers, which are most common among women. Therefore, it is planned to expand screening measures for the detection of these diseases and to introduce a unified registry system.

A number of targeted national programs aimed at strengthening reproductive health and protecting motherhood and childhood have been implemented. To prevent hereditary and congenital diseases in children, republican and regional screening centers, as well as prenatal screening rooms in districts and cities, were established. Pediatric medical centers designed to provide specialized and high-tech medical care across all areas of pediatrics were launched. The 280-bed National Children's Medical Center was commissioned with funding of 40 million US dollars.

To prevent congenital and hereditary diseases, prenatal screening rooms were established in all multidisciplinary district and city central polyclinics. As a result of equipping these facilities with 200 ultrasound scanners, the coverage of pregnant women with ultrasound examinations in the first trimester increased from 30 percent in 2016 to nearly 100 percent today.

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In addition, the range and scope of specialized medical services requiring high qualifications and advanced technologies have been expanded. Over the past five years, the number of republican specialized medical centers increased from 13 to 23, and more than 100 regional branches began operating. As a result, it became possible to perform 210 types of surgeries and diagnostic procedures—previously carried out only in the capital—in local hospitals.

As a result of the reforms implemented in the system, opportunities have been created to perform complex, modern, high-tech medical procedures at the regional level. Currently, 130 types of surgical operations are performed in regional hospitals, and 60 types have been introduced for the first time at the district level. Over the past five years, 200 new types of surgical procedures have been introduced, including kidney and liver transplantation, which are now successfully performed in hospitals across the republic.

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