FRANCE: A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

France is ranked sixth in the world for life expectancy at birth, and third among EU countries, with an average of 82.8 years, compared with 81 in Germany (OECD). France is ranked 11th globally and fifth within the EU in the Global Health Security index, which assesses the level and capacity of healthcare of 195 countries. [GHS index]

SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT

France is the fourth largest economy in the OECD in terms of current healthcare expenditure compared with GDP, spending 11.2% on healthcare, ahead of the United Kingdom (10.2%) and just after Germany (11.6%). France is the OECD country where households bear the least health-related costs. [OECD; INSEE]

WIDE-RANGING EXPERTISE

From oncology and cardiology, to genetics and the silver economy, France stands out in Europe and worldwide. A global pioneer in cardiology and in hemoglobin-related diseases, France has one of the best cancer recovery rates in Europe. France also boasts some of the best companies for home-based nursing care in Europe, with examples including Korian, Orpéa and Colisée. [French Healthcare]

HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS SERVING PATIENTS’ NEEDS

France has more than 1.2 million healthcare professionals, including 226,900 active doctors and 722,600 nurses. Some 55% of doctors are specialists (excluding general medicine). There are currently 3.4 physicians per 1,000 inhabitants in France, far ahead of the United States [2.6 per 1,000] and the United Kingdom [3 per 1,000]. [INSEE; OECD]

WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE

France is ranked fifth worldwide in the IMD rankings on health infrastructure. In terms of public healthcare establishments, France boasts 178 regional hospitals, 943 general hospitals, 32 hospitals specializing in emergency services and critical care and 95 centers specializing in psychiatry. France has a total of 3,036 healthcare structures offering a total capacity of 395,693 beds, the second highest in the EU, for acute treatment and 77,291 beds for people requiring partial hospitalization. [INSEE; Eurostat; IMD]
A Dynamic Private Sector

More than 1,000 clinics and private hospitals contribute to the care of nine million patients every year in France. These establishments provide 55% of surgical procedures, two-thirds of day surgery, one-quarter of psychiatric hospitalizations, and 20% of births (FHP). France also has 4,700 private non-profit institutions that treat 2.5 million people every year. (FEHAP)

Exporting Expertise

France has a strong record in delivering first-class healthcare abroad, particularly to countries such as Vietnam, Morocco, China and the United Arab Emirates (French Healthcare Association). Assistance Publique – Hôpitaux de Paris (AP-HP) has grown its expertise internationally by helping to define the welcome and training strategy of healthcare professionals abroad. In 2019, AP-HP International signed 24 contracts, including 13 new projects compared with 2018. (AP-HP)

A Reputation for Medical Excellence

Thirteen French people are among the recipients of the Nobel Prize in Medicine, while France is the country with the sixth highest number of patents filed in medical technologies at the European Patent Office (EPO; Business France). Moreover, French university hospitals are responsible for more than 130 medical firsts worldwide, with Lille University Hospital having carried out the first ever heart operation without needing to open the patient’s chest. (Réseau CHU)

Hospital Treatment at Home on the Rise

In 2019, there were around 300 authorized active institutions providing home-based care to nearly 122,000 people, up 5% compared with 2017, resulting in 5.6 million days of healthcare provided at home, up 7.5% compared with 2018 (FNEHAD). In 2016, some six million patients benefited from 7.7 million outpatient stays, with outpatient surgery representing 54% of all surgical procedures. (ATIH, 2016)

A Robust Healthcare System

In order to manage the Covid-19 pandemic, an epidemiological monitoring center has been set up, with more than 3,800 additional healthcare professionals having been drafted in to staff the center. The digital sector has proved particularly useful during the pandemic, with telemedicine becoming increasingly popular and laboratories communicating Covid-19 test results online. What’s more, Contact-COVID helps users to identify with people with whom they may have been in contact. (Solidarité-santé; Ameli)
3.4 DOCTORS per 1,000 inhabitants in France, compared with 2.6 in the United States and 3 in the United Kingdom (INSEE; OECD)

#2 WORLDWIDE for the number of clinical trials in gene therapy and oncology

13 NOBEL PRIZES in medicine and nearly 130 cancer research projects

#5 IN THE WORLD in the IMD rankings on health infrastructure (IMD)