

Welcome Message to the participants of the Russian Health Care Week 2021

## Dear colleagues,

MedTravelExpo. Medical Clinics, Health and Spa Resorts and its conference programme are the key congress and exhibition events for the entire medical tourism and healthcare export industry in Russia. MedTravelExpo is an international platform that is developing rapidly, opening a window of opportunity for industry participants to enter the international market, education, establishing partnerships and strengthening their international reputation. The exhibition's conference programme is a point of attraction for medical tourism and medical services export experts from all over the world.

The pandemic caused by a new coronavirus infection has been a major stress test for the health systems of dozens of countries around the world, limiting the ability of their citizens to obtain routine medical care. The Russian health care system has demonstrated its efficiency and resilience to global challenges, and the Russian Government has opened the borders to foreign nationals wishing to receive routine medical care in Russia. In 2020 alone, 3.9 million foreign patients received medical care in our country. In the context of the global pandemic, Russia has become an international medical hub for foreign patients. This opportunity for medical organisations of any form of ownership to develop the export of medical services was supported by the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin by his Decree 204 of 7 May, 2018. For the period from 6 to 9 December, EXPOCENTRE Fairgrounds becomes a key point in the country and the world where the industry's development strategy for the coming year 2022 is being determined. I am sure that organisations of all types of ownership will take part in the exhibition and conference programme from 6 to 9 December, because these are the days when the history of medical tourism in Russia is being written.

**Evgeny Chernyshov** 

President the Association of Medical Tourism and Export of Medical Services