

Beyond Potential

The Realities and Future of Iran's Health Tourism Industry



The First
Edition
2024

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Beyond Potential: The Realities and Future of Iran's Health Tourism Industry

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Iran Expo 2024 Exhibition (www.iranexpofair.com)
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- **Date:** March, 2024
- **Edition:** The First
- **Executive Summary:** This report delves into the burgeoning health tourism industry of Iran, a sector with exciting potential for future growth. It provides a comprehensive overview, analyzing key factors that are driving its expansion, including Iran's advanced medical infrastructure and a skilled workforce. The report highlights specific areas within the Iranian healthcare system that demonstrate high growth potential, showcasing the country's strong foundation within the global health market.

This analysis provides valuable insights for potential patients seeking high-quality, affordable medical care. Beyond the healthcare landscape, the report provides valuable insights into the Iranian health tourism market by identifying key service providers.



Trade Promotion Organization of Iran

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Introduction

Iran, a nation steeped in history and cultural richness, boasts a burgeoning health industry poised for significant growth. This dynamic sector, embedded within a rapidly evolving economy, presents a compelling picture of potential and capability.

Standing at the crossroads of East and West, Iran leverages its unique position to combine a rich heritage of medical knowledge with cutting-edge advancements. This strategic location fosters a diverse talent pool and facilitates collaboration with both Eastern and Western partners. Furthermore, Iran's vast reserves of natural resources provide the foundation for a robust pharmaceutical industry, while its well-established scientific community fuels research and development efforts.

This report delves into the heart of Iran's healthcare potential, exploring the strengths and resources that position the country as a major player in the global market. We will meticulously analyze the factors that contribute to Iran's competitive edge, including its highly skilled medical professionals, advanced medical infrastructure, and commitment to innovation.

Specific areas within the healthcare sector with high growth potential will be identified, highlighting opportunities for domestic and international collaboration.

This in-depth analysis will serve as a valuable resource for businesses, policymakers, and investors seeking to explore the untapped potential of the Iranian healthcare market.

As we delve deeper, you will gain a comprehensive understanding of the factors shaping the future of healthcare trade and collaboration within this dynamic nation.

This report was prepared with the support of the promotion organization of Iran (TPO). The TPO stands as a pivotal force in fostering trade between Iran and other nations. Established in 1966, it carries the crucial mission of promoting and developing Iran's non-oil trade through a comprehensive set of initiatives. The TPO role extends far beyond simply being a mediator. It actively engages in various endeavors to cultivate a thriving trade environment.

Iran Expo Exhibition is one of the TPO plan to facilitate trading with Iran. Iran Expo is a global platform dedicated to showcasing the achievements and exceptional products of Iran, held in Tehran, serves as a bridge, connecting the world with the rich heritage and dynamic industries of this captivating nation.



Structure of the Report



Report Specifications

Mission of the Report

Empowering Iran's Medicine and Healthcare industry for Global Excellence is the main mission of this report. This mission is driven by a commitment to:

- Access to critical market insights
- Direct Access to Potential Partners
- Establish Valuable and Strategic Connections
- Minimize trade Risks

Purpose of the Report

The primary purpose of this report is to serve as a comprehensive resource for foreign businesses and investors interested in exploring export opportunities in Iran's Medicine and Healthcare industry. It aims to provide a holistic understanding of the sector current status, strengths, opportunities, challenges, and future prospects.

Scope of the Report

The report encompasses a broad scope, covering various aspects of the Iranian Medicine and Healthcare industry export potential. It delves into the following key areas:

- Key Export Products
- The most Attractive Target Markets
- Trade Promotion and Investment Opportunities
- Industry Challenges

Research Methodology

This report analyzes the export potential of Iran's Medicine and Healthcare industry for international traders. It employs a three-step approach:

- **Macroeconomic Analysis:** Data on Iran's GDP, trade volume, and major trading partners was gathered from reputable sources such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and International Trade Center (ITC). This data was analyzed to draw a big picture of the overall economic landscape, highlighting market size, growth potential, and relevant consumer trends.

- **Industry-Specific Research:** Information on Iran's Medicine and Healthcare industry exports, key product categories, and major competitors was collected from specialized databases like Trade Map, FAOSTAT, and COMTRADE. Based on this data, specific Medicine and Healthcare industry segments with high export potential were identified for further study.
- **Primary Data Collection & Company Profiling:** Semi-structured interviews were conducted with representatives of prominent Iranian Medicine and Healthcare industry export companies within the chosen segments. Company Profiles were created for key players, highlighting their strengths, target markets, and export capabilities.

Limitations

It is important to acknowledge that this study has limitations. Access to certain primary data, particularly within specific industry segments, might be restricted due to market competitiveness or data availability. Additionally, the dynamic nature of the global economy and trade regulations necessitates continuous updates to maintain the report accuracy.

Target Audience

The report is primarily tailored to foreign businessmen and investors seeking opportunities to collaborate or invest in Iran's Medicine and Healthcare industry. It aims to cater to a diverse range of stakeholders, including:

- Medicine and Healthcare industry producers and processors
- Medicine and Healthcare industry technology companies
- Investment firms and financial institutions
- Consulting firms and advisors



An Overview of Iran

Iran at a Glance

- Area: 1,648,195 square kilometers
- Population: 88,860,005 people
- Capital: Tehran
- Official religion: Islam
- Official language: Farsi (Persian)
- Currency: Rial
- Number of provinces: 31
- Number of industrial parks: 824
- Number of science & technology parks: 54
- Number of technology incubators: 264
- Number of high-tech companies: 9620
- Number of industrial companies: 30400
- Number of universities: 2183
- Number of ports: 12
- 2023 GDP: 368 billion USD
- The export volume in 2023: 81 billion USD
- The import volume in 2023: 59 billion USD

Iran boasts a rich history and a strategic location, fostering a dynamic and diverse economy. This report delves into the nation's flourishing industries, showcasing its vast potential for international collaboration and growth. With a skilled workforce and a strong entrepreneurial spirit, Iran is poised to play a significant role in the global marketplace. Iran's economy is underpinned by a robust mix of industries. This report explores the strengths of each sector. Iran possesses a strategic location and well-developed infrastructure, making it a key player in international trade. This report examines the country's trade landscape, showcasing the opportunities for foreign businesses to partner with Iranian companies and reach new markets.

GDP

Exhibit 1 shows the GDP (current USD) of Iran from 2010 to 2028, with projections for 2023 to 2028. The GDP is a measure of the total value of goods and services produced within a country in a given period. The graph shows that the GDP of Iran has been growing steadily in recent years, with an average annual growth rate of around 2%.

In 2022, the GDP of Iran was estimated to be around 414 billion USD. Exhibit 1 shows the forecast for Iran's GDP growth between 2023 and 2028 is for modest growth, in the range of 2% to 3% per year. This means that the Iranian economy is expected to grow slowly but steadily over the next few years.

Exhibit 1: GDP (USD) of Iran from 2010 to 2028

(Source: World Bank)



Exchange Rate

The Iranian Rial has weakened against the US dollar in recent years. This weaker exchange rate, meaning more rials are needed per dollar, can make Iranian exports cheaper on the global market.

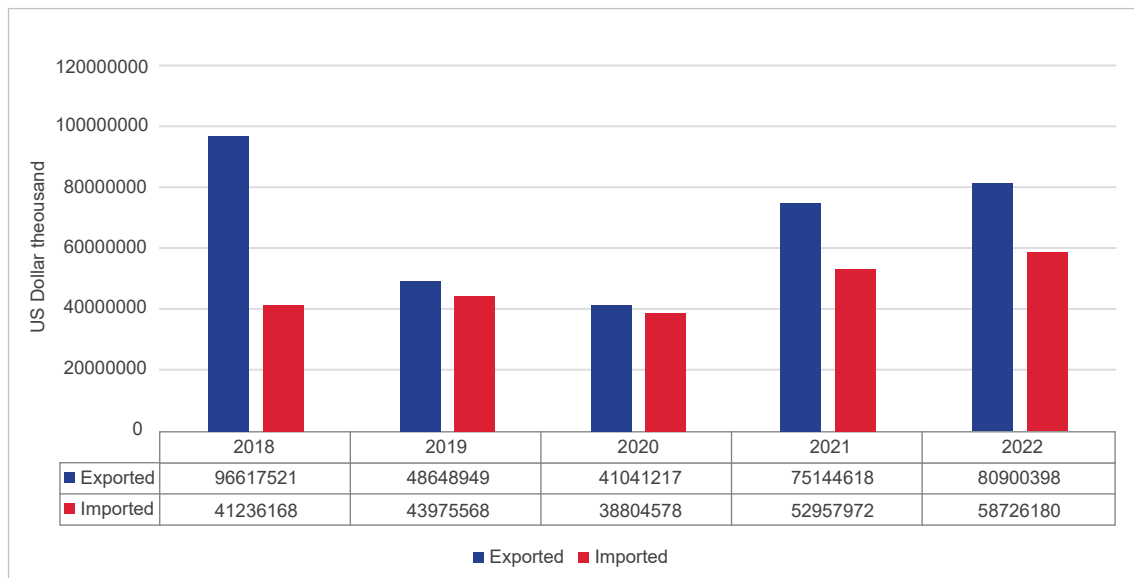
This could potentially lead to increased demand and production due to lower labor costs (in dollar terms) and a decrease in the unit cost of goods.

Trade Statistics

Iran's overall import statistics have experienced an approximate growth of 40% during the last four years.

Iran's largest imports in 2022 are from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) accounting for 30.7%, followed by China at 26.5%, Turkey at 10.4%, and India at 4.6%.

Exhibit 2: Value of Iran's Export and Import from 2018 to 2022 (Source: TRADE MAP)



Iran's overall export statistics are also going through an upward trend, especially in the last two years. Exports from 2020 to 2022 have grown by 100 percent. Iran's largest export in 2022 is to China with 27.7%.

The reason for the drop in exports in 2019 is the withdrawal of the United States from the JCPOA signed by Donald Trump, the former president of this country, and the return of sanctions in 2018, which resulted in a significant drop in Iran's oil exports.

This trend reached its lowest level in 2020 regarding the impact of the Corona pandemic. After that and under the same conditions, Iran was able to increase its exports.

Iran's Health Sector

The healthcare industry, as one of the important and vital areas in any society, plays a very important role in improving the quality of people's lives and economic development. Medical knowledge in Iran has a long history and has trained many skilled scientists and physicians throughout history who have had a profound impact on the advancement of human knowledge. In ancient times, great figures such as «Abu Ali Sina» and «Zakariya Razi» were born in this land.

In modern times, prominent figures such as «Professor Samii» (the world's best brain surgeon) and «Professor Mussivand» (the Iranian Inventor of Artificial Cardiac Pump) have also been raised here.

Key Factors of Iran's Health Sector

Iran's health sector is positioned for growth and international collaboration, fueled by a robust foundation of strengths.

This report explores these key advantages, highlighting the skilled workforce, commitment to self-sufficiency, and strategic government support that drive innovation and position Iran as a competitive player in the global health market. Among the strengths of Iran, the following can be mentioned:

- **Human Capital:** Iran boasts a large pool of highly trained medical professionals, including doctors, pharmacists, researchers, and scientists. This strong human capital base fuels innovation and research and development (R&D) in the health sector.
- **Focus on Self-Sufficiency:** Iran has prioritized self-sufficiency in healthcare, leading to the development of a robust domestic pharmaceutical industry capable of producing a wide range of essential and generic medications.
- **Government Support:** The Iranian government recognizes the importance of the health sector and invests in R&D initiatives, infrastructure development, and promoting domestic production of medical products.
- **Competitive Advantage:** Iranian medical products are often competitively priced due to lower production costs compared to some international counterparts.
- **Growing Domestic Market:** Iran's large and growing population creates a strong domestic market for pharmaceuticals and medical devices, fostering continuous development within the industry.



- **Advancements in R&D:** Iranian researchers and companies are actively engaged in R&D, developing innovative medical technologies and generic drugs.
- **Focus on Specialties:** Iran has established expertise in specific areas like biopharmaceuticals, herbal medicines, and Nano medicine.
- **Patent Activity:** The increasing number of patents registered by Iranian entities in the medical field demonstrates the country's growing technological capabilities.

In the continuation of the report will examine specific examples within the health sector, providing concrete evidence to support the claims made about Iran's strengths and technological advancements. This will give a more comprehensive picture of what Iran has to offer in the global healthcare landscape.

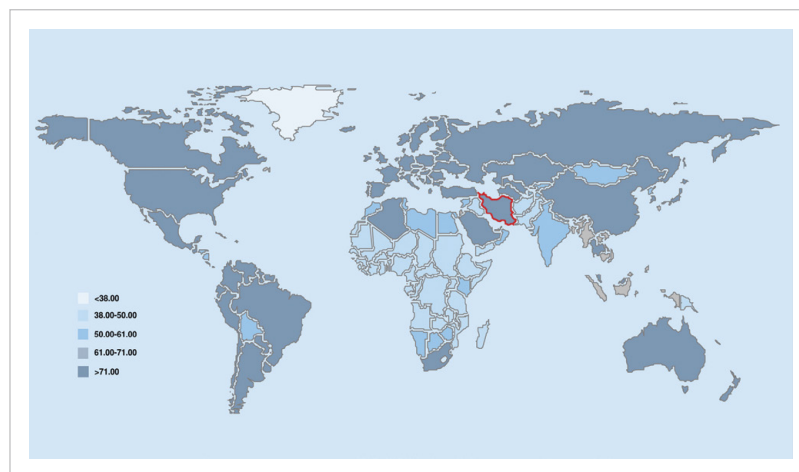
Iran's Health Status

Exhibit 3 displays the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) effective coverage index for various countries worldwide. Iran presently offers over 70% of the essential and impactful health and treatment services.

The concluding part of this text emphasizes the bright future of Iran's health sector due to the strong foundation it possesses. However, simply stating the potential isn't enough. To truly showcase Iran's capabilities, we need to delve deeper.

This index aims to represent how well health services cover a population's needs and the impact these services have on improving overall health. It considers factors like Accessibility, Quality, and Affordability.

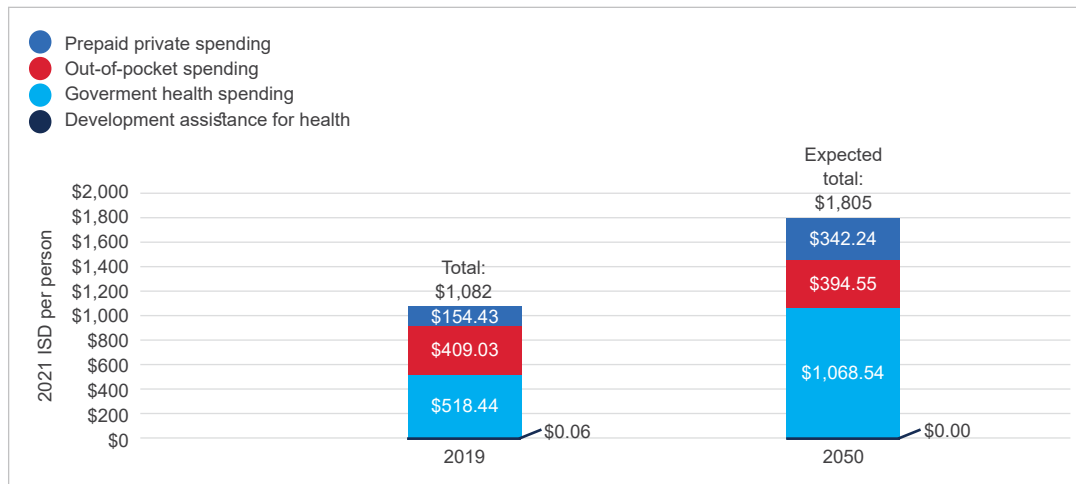
Exhibit 3: Universal Health Coverage Illustration in 2021 (Source: IHME)



A report by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) predicts a dramatic shift in Iran's healthcare landscape by 2050.

Government health coverage is expected to more than double, exceeding 100% growth compared to 2019. This translates to a significant decrease in out-of-pocket expenses for citizens, with a projected 4% reduction.

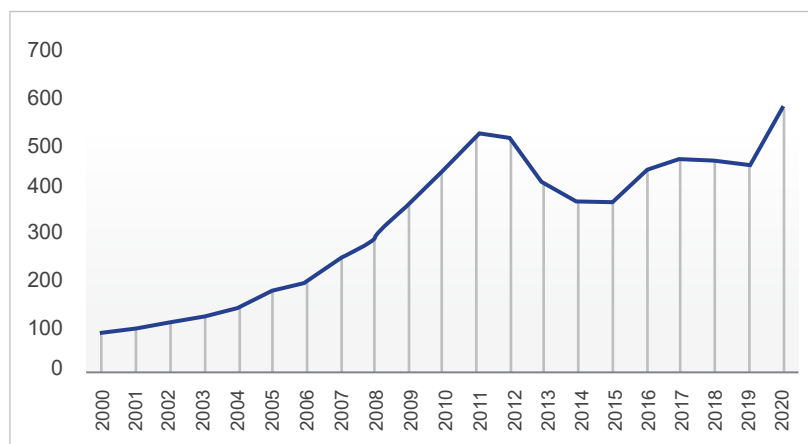
Exhibit 4: Health Coverage in Iran (Source: IHME)



In 2020, according to the World Bank report, Iran's health expenditure per capita reached 573 US dollars, reflecting a significant increase from 94 US dollars in 2001.

This translates to an average annual growth rate of 10.76%. This data highlights Iran's growing investment in healthcare, prioritizing the well-being of its citizens.

Exhibit 5: Health Expenditure per Capita (current USD) in Iran (Source: World Bank)



Iran's Health Sector Workforce

- **311,121 Paramedical personnel**
52,050 Physicians
 - 17,433 General practitioners
 - 4,683 Dentists
 - 304 PhDs in laboratory sciences
 - 2,623 Pharmacists
 - 17,967 Medical specialists
 - 2,553 Subspecialists
 - 6,497 PhDs in specialized fields

(Source: Statistical Center of Iran)

Iran's Health Sector Infrastructure

- Total number of hospitals: 1,020
 - Public hospitals: 705
 - Non-public hospitals: 315
- Number of active comprehensive health service centers: 5,881
- Number of active health bases: 5,535
- Number of active health houses: 17,821
- Number of medical diagnostic laboratories: 4,680
- Number of genetic diagnostic laboratories: 128
- Total number of active pharmacies: 13,052
- Number of veterinary pharmacies: 2,330
- Number of private veterinary clinics: 2,058

(Source: Statistical Center of Iran)

Due to Statista, in 2024:

- Estimated number of hospital beds per 1,000 inhabitants: 1.54
- Estimated number of beds per hospital: 131.10 (assuming even distribution across hospitals)
- Number of physicians: 52,050 (as per your previous translation)
- Number of nurses per 1,000 inhabitants: 2.03
- Number of dentists per 1,000 inhabitants: 0.54
- Number of physiotherapists per 100,000 inhabitants: 14.86

It's important to consider that these are estimates and may not reflect the exact situation in every region of Iran. The number of beds per hospital is an estimate based on the total number of beds and hospitals and may not be representative of every hospital.

Scientific and Technological Potential and Opportunities in Iran

Iran boasts a strong position in medical science according to reputable international organizations. The country ranks 17th globally and 1st in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region for its overall medical knowledge. This accomplishment is further supported by Iran's 16th place in the world for publishing medical research. However, Iran's performance is even more impressive in specific medical fields. For instance, Iran ranks a remarkable 4th globally in infertility treatment, solidifying its leading position within the MENA region.

Healthcare Research: Over the past three years, 12 Iranian researchers in the field of health have had an h-index of over 40. This indicates a high level of research productivity in the Iranian healthcare sector.

Scientific Publications: There are currently 53 scientific and research journals in the fields of health and hygiene, 180 journals in the fields of medical sciences, 20 journals in the fields of pharmacy, and 14 journals in the fields of paramedical sciences that are approved by the Ministry of Science and Health. This shows a strong commitment to scientific publishing in the Iranian healthcare sector.

Education and Training: In the field of health sciences, there are numerous universities in Iran that offer admission, education, and training for students in various fields, including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, paramedical sciences, nursing and midwifery, veterinary medicine, biology, rehabilitation and social health, and health and safety. A total of 67 universities and medical schools are active in Iran. This indicates a well-developed healthcare education system in the country.

Knowledge-Based Companies: The number of knowledge-based companies in Iran has reached 9620 by 2023, showing a 17% growth compared to the previous year. Of these, more than 1600 companies operate in the healthcare sector. 30% of knowledge-based companies in the healthcare sector are active in the field of pharmaceutical raw materials, and 24% are involved in the production of medical equipment. This demonstrates the growing importance of the healthcare sector in Iran's knowledge-based economy.

Science and Technology Parks: There are 13 science and technology parks and 95 technology incubator centers in the field of health. This shows a strong infrastructure for innovation and technology transfer in the Iranian healthcare sector.

Licensed Products and Patented Inventions: Iranian scientists and companies are making significant strides in healthcare innovation, as evidenced by the impressive number of patents they've secured – nearly 180 – with the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the European Patent Office (EPO).

This surge in intellectual property protection reflects a broad range of advancements across various healthcare fields including Pharmaceuticals (81 patents), Medical Equipment (162 Patents), Biotechnology (27 Patents), Herbal Plants and Medicine (9 patents).

This surge in innovation signifies several positive developments:

- **Scientific Prowess:** The high number of patents demonstrates the strength of Iranian scientific research and development in the healthcare sector.
- **Global Recognition:** Securing patents in prestigious international offices like USPTO and EPO highlights the global significance of Iranian healthcare advancements.
- **Economic Potential:** These patents have the potential to attract foreign investment, foster the growth of Iranian healthcare companies, and create new jobs within the sector.
- **Improved Healthcare:** Ultimately, these innovations offer the potential to improve the quality of healthcare available not only in Iran but potentially worldwide

Spotlight on Iran's Health Sector

Cell Therapy: Iran has been utilizing cell therapy for nearly two decades, placing it among the top 10 countries to implement this technology. While many nations are still in the research phase, Iran has successfully applied stem cells in various transplants, including cornea, heart, and skin.

Infertility Treatment: Iran stands out as a leading and highly capable nation in assisted reproductive technologies. Royan Infertility Clinic holds the distinction of being Iran's most reputable and well-equipped center for infertility treatment.

Royan not only provides services through specialized centers for infertility, cell therapy, and diabetes, but also actively engages in research through dedicated institutes focused on reproductive sciences, cell and stem cell biology, and biotechnology.

Biotechnology: Iran is now one of the top three producers of biotechnological products in the world. The country produces vaccines for hepatitis B, erythropoietin, interferon, streptokinase, GCSF, and interferon beta.

Largest Anti-Cancer Drug Production Plant in the Middle East: The Actoverco pharmaceutical group has launched nine production lines for anti-cancer drugs with an investment of over 100 million euros. This is the first German-American bioreactor in the Middle East with OFAC and BAFA licenses.

All products from these production lines are evaluated and controlled Actoverco's advanced quality control laboratories. These laboratories are equipped with the latest and most accurate analytical equipment, including 16 HPLC devices, seven UV and IR spectrophotometers, four TOC devices, and three GC devices.

Iran's Pharmaceutical Production: Iran ranks first in pharmaceutical production in the region. 97% of the country's needed medicines are produced domestically. Iran is now the fourth producer of recombinant drugs in Asia. So far, 14 such drugs have been produced in the country. Recombinant drugs are mainly used in the treatment of incurable diseases such as cancers, some viral diseases, multiple sclerosis, and hemophilia.

Medical Equipment: Iran has made significant strides in the development and production of medical equipment in recent years. This progress is driven by a combination of factors, including government investment, a growing knowledge-based economy, and the dedication of researchers and entrepreneurs. Iran has successfully produced image processing equipment for CT scan devices, a vital component for accurate medical imaging.

Medical Plants: Leaning on its rich history of herbal medicine, Iran is experiencing a resurgence in this field. The establishment of refineries for processing medicinal plants alongside the development of innovative extraction methods, like the tripling of rose essence yield, showcases this commitment. Furthermore, AI-powered machines are being built to improve the efficiency and quality of harvesting valuable saffron. This surge in research and development, coupled with the vast array of native medicinal plants in Iran, positions the country as a potential leader in the revitalization of traditional medicine.

Health Tourism: Leveraging its long history of medical excellence and world-class facilities, Iran's health tourism sector is booming. With 247 licensed medical centers catering to over 1.2 million medical tourists from 164 countries in 2023 alone, Iran has secured its place as a leading destination (ranking 46th globally). The recent establishment of two herbal refineries in Razavi Khorasan Province further strengthens this position by providing innovative treatment options, attracting even more international patients seeking high-quality healthcare.

Additional Areas of Focus: Iran is actively researching and developing cutting-edge solutions in areas like nanomedicine, advanced medical imaging, telemedicine, gene therapy, and tissue engineering. These advancements have the potential to revolutionize healthcare delivery, disease detection, and treatment options in Iran and beyond.

Iranian Government's Support for the Health Sector

The Iranian government has implemented a multi-faceted approach to support the growth and innovation of the domestic health industry.

A significant 52% increase in healthcare funding for the Ministry of Health and affiliated organizations was allocated in the 2023 budget. The government prioritizes strengthening infrastructure for the production of high-quality pharmaceuticals, vaccines, medical supplies, and equipment that meet international standards.

This focus aims to reduce reliance on imported medical products and potentially make healthcare more affordable. A specific support package has been developed to incentivize domestic production of medicines and health products. This initiative aims to reduce dependence on foreign imports and potentially lower healthcare costs for the population.

Recognizing the potential of the Iranian health industry, the government provides direct financial support to manufacturing companies to participate in and visit international health exhibitions. This initiative enhances visibility for Iranian healthcare products in the global market and potentially opens doors for export opportunities.

Health Tourism Industry in Iran

The concept of health tourism encompasses various approaches. The World Tourism Organization offers a specific definition:

Taking advantage of services that lead to recovery or improvement of health and upliftment of the person's spirit (with the help of mineral waters, weather or medical interventions) and lasts in a place outside the person's residence (which is more than 24 hours).

While health tourism is a broader term, it's sometimes used interchangeably with medical tourism, particularly in certain regions. Medical tourism itself is a branch within the larger health tourism industry.

Medical tourism is considered one of the branches of the HEALTH tourism industry. Iran's medical tourism sector has garnered significant attention recently. It facilitates access to healthcare for a wider range of patients, catering to diverse medical needs and budgets. This growth has positioned Iran as a leading hub in the Middle East for various medical treatments, particularly plastic surgery.

Health tourism isn't just about treatments; it's a holistic approach to improving and maintaining well-being. To gain a deeper understanding, we will now explore the following key categories:

- **Medical Tourism (Global Health Services):** This focuses on traveling for medical treatments and surgeries, offering a wider range of healthcare options at potentially lower costs.
- **Wellness Tourism:** As opposed to treating existing conditions, wellness tourism prioritizes preventative measures and overall health improvement. Activities like yoga, meditation, healthy eating, and fitness retreats fall under this umbrella.
- **Thermal Tourism:** This branch emphasizes relaxation and physical rehabilitation. People seek out thermal springs, mud baths, and other treatments utilizing natural hot springs for their benefits.
- **Elderly and Accessible Tourism:** This caters to seniors and individuals with disabilities. It provides long-term care services alongside social activities and accessible sightseeing tours, ensuring a fulfilling experience. Facilities include clinical hotels, retirement communities, and accessible recreational areas.

By encompassing these diverse areas, health tourism caters to a wider range of needs and preferences. It allows individuals to combine travel experiences with personalized health goals, promoting a more comprehensive approach to well-being.



Medical Tourism in Iran

Iran boasts a remarkable history exceeding 5,000 years, evident in its ancient sites and enduring traditions. This cultural richness, complemented by 23 UNESCO World Heritage Sites and captivating natural landscapes, positions Iran as a destination with multifaceted appeal.

Beyond its historical and scenic treasures, Iran has emerged as a credible medical tourism destination, attracting patients worldwide with its Expertise in a Wide Range of Medical Fields. Iran boasts a pool of highly trained medical professionals offering advanced treatment options in various specialties. This includes:

- **Infertility Treatment:** Iran has a strong reputation for successful infertility treatments, including In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) and other assisted reproductive technologies.
- **Cancer Treatment:** Iran offers comprehensive cancer care, including surgery, radiation therapy, and chemotherapy, often at a fraction of the cost encountered in developed nations.
- **Cosmetic Surgery:** Iran has become a popular destination for affordable cosmetic procedures, ranging from facial surgeries to body contouring, performed by skilled and experienced surgeons.
- **Pre-IVF Consultations and Investigations:** For couples struggling with infertility, Iran offers comprehensive pre-IVF consultations and diagnostic investigations to determine the best course of treatment.
- **Orthopedics - Joint Replacement:** Iranian orthopedic surgeons are known for their expertise in joint replacement surgeries, using advanced techniques and high-quality prosthetics.
- **Dental Treatments:** From routine checkups to complex dental procedures like implants and veneers, Iran offers a wide range of affordable dental treatments with skilled dentists.
- **Neurology and Neurosurgery:** Iran has well-equipped neurological departments and skilled neurosurgeons capable of handling complex neurological conditions and performing intricate brain surgeries.
- **Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery:** Iranian cardiologists offer advanced diagnostics and treatment options for heart conditions, including minimally invasive cardiac surgeries.
- **Obesity Treatment:** Iran provides comprehensive programs for weight management, including bariatric surgery overseen by qualified surgeons and nutritionists.
- **Ophthalmology:** Cataract surgery, LASIK eye surgery, and other advanced ophthalmic procedures are performed by experienced eye surgeons in Iran, often at competitive prices.

This diverse range of specialties caters to a wide range of medical needs, making Iran a compelling option for medical tourists seeking high-quality and affordable treatment. Furthermore, Iran is gaining recognition as a preferred destination for comprehensive health check-ups and advanced disease diagnosis.

Thermal Tourism in Iran

Beyond its medical expertise, Iran boasts a hidden gem – thermal tourism. This branch of tourism focuses on relaxation, rejuvenation, and physical rehabilitation, attracting visitors seeking the therapeutic benefits of natural hot springs.

Iran's rich geothermal landscape offers a plethora of thermal springs scattered across the country, each boasting unique mineral compositions and therapeutic properties.



Here's a glimpse into Iran's thermal tourism landscape:

- **Natural Abundance:** With over 300 identified mineral-rich hot springs, Iran presents a vast network of natural thermal pools. These springs vary in temperature, ranging from comfortably warm to steaming hot, catering to different preferences.
- **Diverse Mineral Compositions:** The mineral content of each spring varies, offering a range of potential health benefits. Some springs are known for their high sulfur content, beneficial for skin conditions, while others contain minerals like magnesium and calcium, known to aid relaxation and muscle recovery.
- **Therapeutic Treatments:** Thermal springs are often integrated into traditional healing practices, with mud baths, steam rooms, and hydrotherapy treatments offered alongside soaking in the mineral-rich waters. These treatments are believed to alleviate various ailments, including arthritis, chronic pain, skin conditions, and stress.
- **Spa and Wellness Retreats:** Many hot spring locations have developed into spa and wellness retreats, offering a holistic approach to well-being. These retreats typically combine traditional thermal therapies with massages, yoga sessions, and healthy dining options, creating a rejuvenating experience for visitors.
- **Historical and Cultural Significance:** Some hot springs boast a rich history, with natural pools and bathhouses dating back centuries. These locations offer a unique blend of relaxation and cultural immersion, allowing visitors to experience a piece of Iran's heritage alongside the therapeutic benefits of the hot springs.

Iran's thermal tourism industry presents a unique opportunity to combine medical tourism with relaxation and rejuvenation. By strategically developing wellness retreats, promoting the diverse range of thermal springs, and integrating traditional healing practices, Iran can attract a broader range of tourists seeking a holistic approach to health and well-being.

Statistical Overview of Iran's Health Tourism Industry

This section presents a statistical overview of Iran's medical tourism industry, highlighting key metrics and trends.

Patient Influx and Revenue Generation:

- According to the Ministry of Health's Deputy Minister of Medicine, approximately 1.2 million health tourists visited Iran in 2023 (excluding resident foreigners and students). This signifies significant growth in the sector.
- Over 90% of these health tourists originated from neighboring eastern and western countries, with Iraq and Afghanistan topping the list. Others include Pakistan, Oman, Bahrain, Armenia, and Tajikistan.
- Iran's medical tourism revenue reached \$1 billion in the past Iranian calendar year, benefiting not only medical centers but also hotels, restaurants, transportation, and other service providers.

Healthcare Infrastructure and Service Offerings:

- Iran boasts a network of 30,000 medical centers (excluding clinics) nationwide, equipped to serve patients. Additionally, 247 medical centers and hospitals possess the latest standards and IPD licenses, catering specifically to health tourists.
- Treatment costs in Iran are significantly lower compared to developed nations and regional competitors like Jordan, Turkey, UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Southeast Asian countries. Weakening of the Iranian Rial further contributes to affordability.
- Beyond medical treatments, Iran attracts tourists seeking wellness services like spa therapy, preventative care, rehabilitation, and chronic disease management. The nation's 300 mineral-rich springs hold potential for development in health tourism.

Healthcare System Strength and Achievements:

- As per the World Health Organization (WHO) data (pre-2021), Iran possessed a robust public health system with 231,782 hospital beds.
- Iran demonstrates commitment to public health with a near 100% vaccination rate for major communicable diseases and a significant portion of the population vaccinated against COVID-19 by February 2022.
- Iran stands as one of only nine countries achieving the global development goal of halving maternal mortality ratio between 1990 and 2015.

Economic Impact and Future Outlook:

- According to the Global Wellness Institute's 2020 ranking, Iran's health economy reached nearly \$12 billion, positioning the country 45th globally.
- Iran ranks among the top 5 nations in the field of biotechnology molecules.
- The country fosters innovation with over 300 health-focused startups and businesses.
- Iran's 7th development plan allocates 7 billion euros specifically for medical tourism development.
- The Human Development Index (HDI) reflects a dramatic increase in life expectancy, from 51.1 years in 1980 to 74.6 years in 2022, signifying significant progress.
- The Ministry of Health reports near-universal access to basic medical services, with 100% coverage in urban areas and 98% in rural areas.

This data paints a comprehensive picture of Iran's health tourism industry, highlighting its growth potential and commitment to providing high-quality healthcare services at competitive prices.

The Rise of Health Tourism in Iran

Iran's health tourism industry has seen a remarkable rise in recent years, attracting a growing number of international patients seeking high-quality medical care. This surge can be attributed to several key factors:

1. Renowned Medical Expertise:

Iran possesses a wellspring of highly qualified medical professionals. These seasoned doctors, surgeons, and specialists boast extensive experience and are equipped with the knowledge to deliver advanced treatments across a diverse range of specialties.

From renowned fertility specialists achieving exceptional success rates to skilled surgeons pioneering minimally invasive procedures, Iran's medical talent pool offers patients access to top-tier care at competitive costs.

2. Cutting-Edge Facilities:

The nation has made significant investments in state-of-the-art medical facilities. These hospitals and clinics are equipped with the latest advancements in medical technology, ensuring patients receive diagnoses, treatments, and procedures using the most modern equipment and techniques available.

This includes advanced diagnostic tools like MRI machines and PET scans, alongside cutting-edge surgical equipment like robotic surgery systems.

3. Competitive Pricing:

A significant advantage for Iran is its affordability. Medical procedures and treatments in Iran are offered at substantially lower costs compared to many other developed nations.

This financial advantage makes high-quality healthcare accessible to a broader range of international patients, allowing them to receive advanced medical care without incurring a significant financial burden.

4. Streamlined Visa Process:

Recognizing the importance of patient experience, Iran has implemented a simplified visa application process specifically for medical tourists. This streamlined approach reduces administrative hurdles and expedites the journey to receiving necessary treatment.

Patients can typically obtain medical visas efficiently through designated channels, minimizing delays and ensuring a smooth transition into receiving care.

5. Holistic Approach to Wellness:

Beyond conventional medicine, Iran caters to patients seeking alternative treatment options. The country has a rich tradition of herbal remedies and acupuncture, with a growing number of facilities integrating these practices alongside modern medicine.

This holistic approach allows patients to explore complementary treatments that address not just the physical ailment but also promote overall well-being. Additionally, Iran boasts numerous natural mineral springs with therapeutic properties, opening doors for the development of wellness centers that combine traditional practices with the restorative benefits of thermal waters.

Global Health Tourism Market

Chronic diseases on the rise and advancements in medical technology are driving a global surge in medical tourism. Patients seek treatment abroad due to high costs or limited options in their home countries. Faster access and affordability are key motivators, with globalization making medical tourism even more accessible. The seamless flow of patients, medical professionals, technology, and investment across borders is fueling this market's impressive growth.

A UnivDatos Market Insights (UMI) report reveals a promising future for Middle Eastern healthcare tourism. Valued at 1.69 billion USD in 2022, the market is projected to surge at a robust 22.5% CAGR. This growth is fueled by some factors including its strategic location.

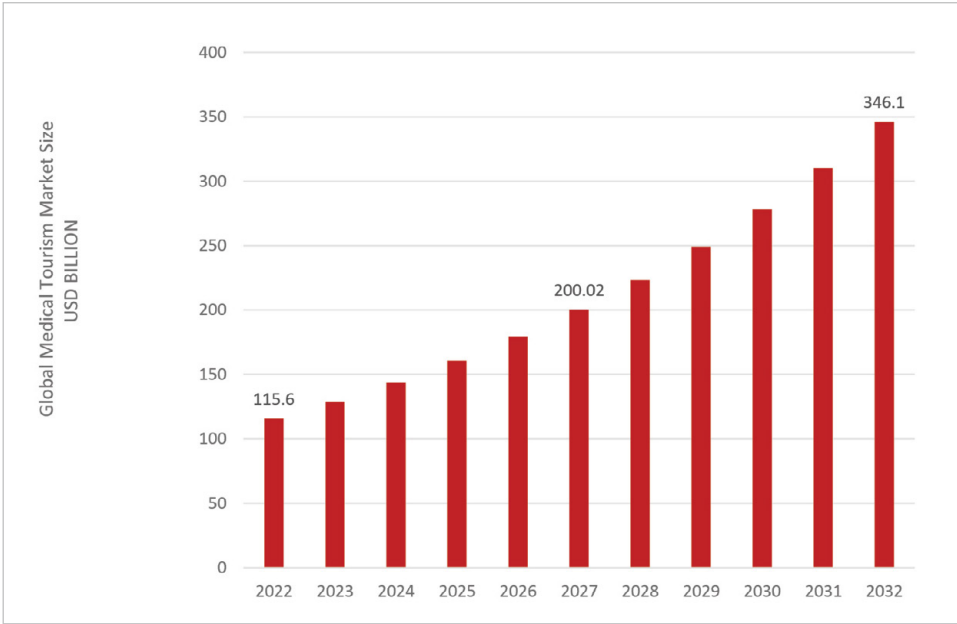
The Middle East's strategic location at the crossroads of continents further strengthens its appeal. Beyond competitive pricing and government support, the region offers a unique combination of top-notch healthcare and rich cultural experiences, positioning it as a major player in the global healthcare tourism arena.

Well-positioned to benefit from the anticipated surge in Middle Eastern healthcare tourism, Iran stands out as a compelling destination for medical tourists. Its competitive pricing, skilled medical professionals, and advancements in specific areas like infertility treatment, cancer care, and ophthalmology make it a strong contender.

Furthermore, Iran's rich cultural heritage can enhance the experience for patients seeking medical treatment.

A 2022 Precedence Research report estimates the global medical tourism market at 115.6 billion USD in 2022. Projecting an impressive 11.59% compound annual growth rate (CAGR), the market is expected to reach 346.1 billion USD by 2032.

Exhibit 6: Global Medical Tourism Market Size Prediction (Source: Precedence Research)

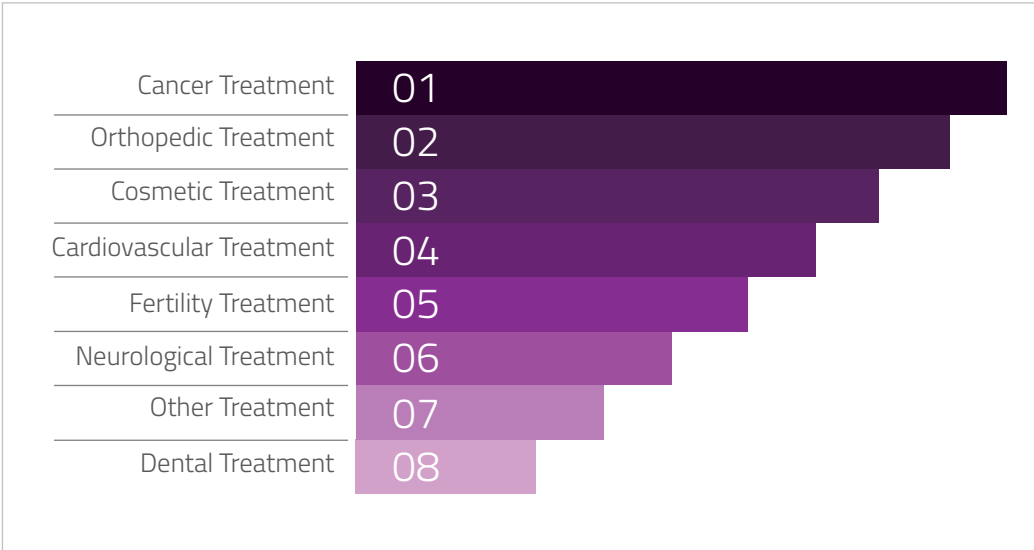


Based on treatment type, in 2022, the cancer treatment segment accounted largest revenue share and is estimated to sustain its dominance during the forecast period.

This can be simply attributed to the rising prevalence of cancer among the global population. According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, around 19.3 million new cancer cases and around 10 million cancer related deaths were reported in the year 2020, across the globe.

Exhibit 7: Prediction of Financial Turnover in Different Sectors of Medical Tourism

(Source: Precedence Research)



The rapid emergence of various effective treatment for cancer like targeted therapeutics, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy among others is boosting the growth of the medical tourism market across the globe.

Cancer treatment is expensive and hence people are increasing adopting medical tourism to attain the treatment in other countries for reducing the costs of the treatment.

This is expected to further boost the growth of this segment during the forecast period.

Iran's health tourism industry presents a multitude of promising avenues for growth. This report highlights six key areas with the potential to solidify Iran's position as a leading global destination for medical travelers.

- **Catering to the Rising Demand for Accessible and Quality Healthcare:**

The global population's aging trend and increasing prevalence of chronic diseases are driving a surge in demand for accessible and high-quality healthcare. Iran is well-positioned to capitalize on this demand by offering competitive pricing and leveraging its pool of skilled medical professionals.

- **Leveraging Expertise in Specialized Medical Fields:**

Iran boasts a well-educated and experienced pool of medical professionals, particularly in specialized fields like infertility treatment, ophthalmology, and spinal surgery. Promoting these areas of expertise will attract medical tourists seeking advanced treatment options at competitive costs.

High-Growth Opportunities in Iran's Health Tourism Industry





- **Embracing Technological Advancements for Enhanced Care:**

Integration of cutting-edge technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data analytics, and telehealth positions Iran's healthcare system at the forefront of innovation. Utilizing AI for diagnostics and personalized treatment plans, analyzing Big Data to improve patient outcomes, and offering telehealth services for pre- and post-operative consultations can significantly enhance the appeal of medical tourism in Iran.

- **Shifting Towards Preventative Care and Personalized Medicine:**

The global healthcare landscape is witnessing a shift towards preventative care and personalized medicine. Iran can capitalize on this trend by investing in early disease detection programs and offering treatment plans customized to individual patient needs. This approach not only improves patient outcomes but also reduces long-term healthcare costs.

- **Streamlining the Patient Journey with Digital Transformation:**

Embracing digital platforms for online appointments, teleconsultations, and secure patient portals can significantly streamline the medical tourism experience. This allows for efficient scheduling, remote consultations, and easy access to medical records, creating a more convenient and transparent experience for health tourists.

- **Unlocking the Potential of Wellness Tourism:**

Iran's abundance of natural mineral springs with therapeutic properties presents a unique opportunity for developing health resorts and wellness centers alongside medical tourism services. These facilities can offer a holistic approach to healthcare, combining medical treatments with relaxation and rejuvenation therapies, catering to a broader range of health tourists.

SWOT Analysis



Strengths

- **Skilled Medical Professionals:** Iran boasts a well-educated and experienced pool of medical professionals, particularly in specialized fields like infertility treatment, ophthalmology, and cancer treatment. This expertise attracts medical tourists seeking advanced procedures at competitive costs.
- **Technological Advancements:** Iran is embracing cutting-edge technologies like AI, big data, and telehealth. This positions its healthcare system at the forefront of innovation and enhances its appeal for medical tourists seeking advanced treatment options.
- **Competitive Pricing:** Compared to many developed nations, Iran offers medical procedures at a significantly lower cost. This affordability can attract a wider range of medical tourists, particularly those from budget-conscious markets.
- **Rich Cultural Heritage:** Iran's rich history and cultural attractions can provide a unique and enriching experience for medical tourists, potentially extending their stay and generating additional revenue.
- **Natural Resources:** Iran has numerous natural mineral springs with therapeutic properties. This opens doors for developing health resorts and wellness centers alongside medical tourism services, creating a holistic approach to healthcare.
- **Government backing:** The Iranian government prioritizes self-sufficiency in healthcare industry through policies and investments in R&D.



Weaknesses

- **Lack of Unified Regulations:** The absence of a specific medical tourism license and clear guidelines for providers can create uncertainty for patients and hinder industry growth.
- **Limited Marketing and Promotion:** Iran's health tourism industry lacks a strong international presence. Targeted marketing campaigns are needed to raise awareness of its offerings amongst potential patients.
- **Language Barriers:** While English is spoken in some medical facilities, language barriers can still be a challenge for many medical tourists.
- **Research and Development Investments:** While R&D is a growing focus, continued investment is needed to foster innovation and compete on the global stage. Collaboration with international partners can provide access to expertise, funding, and resources needed to develop novel drugs and treatments.
- **Unauthorized middleman (brokers):** Their role is critical and vital for medical tourism in Iran. But there is a need for 'eliminating unauthorized middleman' as it is believed that they create a negative image for Iran.



Opportunities

- **Rising Demand for Affordable Healthcare:** The global demand for accessible and high-quality healthcare is on the rise. Iran can capitalize on this trend by effectively promoting its competitive pricing and skilled medical professionals.
- **Focus on Preventative Care and Personalized Medicine:** By investing in preventative care programs and personalized treatment plans, Iran can cater to the growing global interest in these areas.
- **Digital Transformation:** Embracing digital platforms for online appointments, teleconsultations, and patient portals can streamline the medical tourism experience and attract tech-savvy patients.
- **Investment and Incentives:** Providing financial incentives and streamlined processes for establishing new health tourism facilities and attracting qualified medical professionals can further strengthen the industry.
- **Wellness Tourism Potential:** Leveraging Iran's natural resources for developing health resorts and wellness centers can attract a broader range of health tourists seeking relaxation and rejuvenation alongside medical treatment.



Threats

- **Competition:** Iran faces stiff competition from established medical tourism destinations offering similar services. It needs to effectively differentiate itself through unique selling points and excellent patient care.
- **Global Pandemics:** Outbreaks like COVID-19 can significantly disrupt international travel and the health tourism industry.
- **Regional Hub:** Iran's strategic location positions it well to become a regional hub for Health tourist industry.
- **Increase market size and revenue:** Incoming medical tourists and their activities during their stay, such as staying in hotels and accommodations, generate huge amounts of income for the host country.

Guides for the Health Tourism in Iran

General Regulations:

▪ National Healthcare Standards:

All medical facilities in Iran must comply with national healthcare regulations established by the Iranian Ministry of Health and Medical Education. This ensures a minimum standard of care for both domestic patients and medical tourists.

▪ Visa Requirements:

Foreigners seeking medical treatment require a medical visa. Specific requirements and application processes vary depending on nationality and length of stay. Consulting the nearest Iranian embassy or consulate for the latest information is recommended.

Regulations for Health Tourism Providers:

▪ Licensing:

While a specific medical tourism license isn't currently available, regulations are under development. Currently, medical facilities serving international patients need a general healthcare license.

▪ Transparency and Ethics:

Iran is actively working to establish clear guidelines for medical tourism providers. These guidelines will address patient information disclosure, informed consent, and ethical marketing practices.

For Foreign Patients:

▪ Medical History and Insurance:

Bringing your medical records and having valid health insurance covering treatment abroad is highly recommended.

▪ Language Barriers:

While English is spoken in some medical facilities catering to international patients, having a translator can be helpful.

▪ Cultural Differences:

Familiarizing yourself with basic Iranian customs and etiquette can enhance your experience.



International Regulatory Frameworks

The health tourism industry lacks a single, unified international regulatory framework. Here's a breakdown of the key factors influencing safety, quality, and patient rights:

National Regulations: Each country establishes healthcare regulations that medical facilities must adhere to. This ensures a baseline level of care for both domestic patients and medical tourists.

International Accreditation Bodies: Organizations like the Joint Commission International (JCI) and the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua) offer accreditation programs for hospitals and medical facilities.

These programs set international benchmarks for quality and safety that medical tourism providers can strive to achieve.

Patient Home Country Regulations: Some countries have regulations for citizens seeking medical treatment abroad.

These may involve pre-approval requirements or limitations on insurance coverage for procedures done outside the home country.

International Health Regulations (IHR): The International Health Regulations (IHR) is a legally binding agreement between 196 countries, including the World Health Organization (WHO) member states. It outlines measures to prevent the transnational spread of infectious diseases.

Key Points of the IHR:

- Defines national core capacities for managing public health emergencies, including those at international points of entry.
- Aims to balance public health protection with minimal disruption to international travel and trade.
- Requires countries to designate a National IHR Focal Point for communication with WHO and establish core surveillance and response capabilities.
- Introduces safeguards for travelers' rights, including data privacy, informed consent, and non-discrimination in health measures application.



Health Tourism Industry



Some Iranian Healthcare Service Providers in the Health Tourism Sector

AriaMedTour

Brief Overview

AriaMedTour is a medical tourism and healthcare service provider in Iran. A team of skilled, experienced professionals, it focuses on medical tourism, tours and travel services for international patients from across the world.

AriaMedTour is associated with the most famous and prestigious hospitals, clinics, specialists and doctors.

Selected hospitals and clinics are well equipped with the finest infrastructure, modern equipment, trained supportive staff and international standards of hygiene and care for the comfort of patients.

AriaMedTour met the required standards to be accredited by the related tourism and medical tourism authorities including Iran's Ministry of Health and Medical Education as well as Iran's Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Handicraft for offering medical tourism services.

This medical tourism and healthcare service provider has provided service to patients from more than 75 countries.

Services

- Patient online services (quote and consultation)
- Planning the highest international standards and quality hospitals and clinics (for all treatments and budgets)
- Appointing treatments by the most skilled and internationally trained doctors and surgeons
- Airport pick-up, pre-operative check-ups, 24-hours assistance, accommodation arrangements (for patients and their families)
- Pre-hospitalization and post-hospitalization high-quality healthcare services



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Raadina Travel Company

Brief Overview

Raadina Travel Co., as one of the experienced health tourism companies in Iran, has obtained the necessary licenses from the Iranian Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts, the license to obtain a medical visa from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the license to facilitate medical services for international patients from the Ministry of Health, under the brand "Raadina Health".

Having a strong and expert team in the field of medicine, Raadina Travel Co. performs all tasks relative to patients' medical trips, from filing medical documents to the treatment and post-treatment support for domestic and foreign patients., while making the necessary arrangements with all Iranian healthcare centers.

Services

- Checking the patient's clinical documents or diagnostic documents
- Estimating the costs of diagnostic and treatment services and providing a medical consultation
- Applying for (or extending) a visa
- Issuing travel insurance;
- Booking hotels and accommodations
- Renting Cars
- Purchasing local and foreign tickets
- Providing translators and patient assistants



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MedoTrip

Brief Overview

MedoTrip in cooperation with the most reliable specialists, doctors, hospitals, and clinics all around Iran which are broad certified and professional in their specific fields, is ready to offer the most authentic medical and cosmetic services to those international patients who choose their healthcare services very precisely; along with all-inclusive travel and accommodation services for their pleasure.

MedoTrip offers a wide range of medical and cosmetic services including hair transplant, weight loss surgeries (gastric sleeve, bypass, balloon, plication), cosmetic dentistry surgeries, eye care treatments, fertility treatments, rhinoplasty, face lifting, liposuction, and many other selected services.

MedoTrip also provides travel services for the patients along with the healthcare services. These services include booking flights and accommodations, Visa, dedicated airport transfer, pickups and drop-offs, interpreting and tour guiding services, specific nursing, sightseeing tours and so on so forth.

Services

- Free online counseling with MedoTrip experts
- Coordinating appointments with professional and experienced international doctors
- Planning and coordinating with advanced medical centers
- Getting Iran's medical treatment visa
- Booking patients desired hotel
- Planning patients travel
- Translator and guide for patient's entire travel time
- Airport transfer
- SIM Card and internet
- The required services for before and after the hospitalization with the highest quality.



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Nora Medical & Health Tourism

Brief Overview

Nora Health Tour is an agile and creative medical tourism service provider with a young, experienced and professional team that focuses on providing a high quality level of medical tourism services and travel services for international patients from all over the world. Nora Health Tour believes in unparalleled clinical excellence and high standards in medical, healthcare and cosmetic services for international patients. With the cooperation of medical centers that have a legal license to accept medical tourists we support the rights of our guests.

Services

- Providing online free initial consultation to shed light on your current health conditions and prepare the best advice from our medical experts.
- Our trusted physician peruses your available medical reports and examination results for initial diagnosis and then plans the best service for you.
- Presenting detailed projection of treatment costs.
- Choosing educated, high-skilled, trained, and certified doctors considering patient's comfort with him or her.
- Planning memorable, satisfactory and flexible health tours in Iran as you desire.
- Fluent interpreters during medical process.
- Providing best nursing care in residential hotels if needed.
- Translation of all the documents and forms of the hospital into two Arabic and English languages for protecting the rights of patients.
- The issuance of bills in English along with the Medical Report at the time of discharge.
- Follow-up treatments after returning your country.
- Planning unforgettable trip to all cities in Iran on request.
- Access to a 24 hour advice line
- Providing types of cosmetic and medical services



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Iranian Surgery

Brief Overview

Iranian surgery website is an online medical tourism platform in Iran aiming to help people all around the globe to receive quality healthcare services as well as offering patients its medical consultation. In fact, it is a user-friendly online website providing international patients with lots of useful information about the best hospitals and professional surgeons in Iran.

Iranian surgery aims to inform patients about all the stages involved in their procedure and recovery timetable according to international standards. The mission of Iranian Surgery is to put international patients in direct contact with Iranian based medical centers through a user-friendly online platform.

Services

- Face Lift Surgery Rhytidectomy
- Butt Lift
- Tummy Tuck (Abdominoplasty)
- Lip Augmentation (Lip Fill)
- Breast Augmentation
- Rhinoplasty (Nose Job)



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Iran Health Tourism (IRHTO)

Brief Overview

IRHTO -as a brand of Iran Health Tourism was founded by International Health Services Institute (TAPESH) in 2006 and began its activity with the cooperation of the governmental, private, educational and university organizations. IRHTO provides international medical travel facilities with high quality healthcare services in IRAN.

Services

- Obtaining a visa
- Booking hotels and airline tickets
- Escort interpreting and Transfer services
- Specialized Medical Tours with renowned healthcare professionals in the best hospitals equipped with the latest technology
- Recreational tours with visiting top-rated Iran tourist attractions
- VIP services
- Providing Insurance and legal services
- Providing types of healthcare services



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Moj Aramesh Amitis Company

Brief Overview

Moj Aramesh Amitis Company commenced with the aim of creating a suitable atmosphere and providing high quality services for medical tourism. Moj Aramesh Amitis Company is the first facilitator in Iran who succeeded to receive "Medical Tourism Qualification Certificate" from the Ministry of Health and Medical Education.

The company strives to provide the best specialized services to health tourists and increase productivity and efficiency by employing skilled experts fluent in English, Arabic and Azeri languages along with introducing the best certified treatment centers approved by Ministry of Health and Medical Education as well as introducing experienced and well-known practitioners in various fields of specialty in medicine, dentistry, and beauty.

Services

Other services of the company include providing services and amenities to the patient's companions such as ticketing and taking visas through contracts with travel agencies, hotel reservations, inter-city transfers, currency exchange and sightseeing in Iran.

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AMITIS
health tourism Co.



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Shaheed Rajaie Cardiovascular Medical and Research Center

Brief Overview

Shaheed Rajaie Cardiovascular Medical and Research Center (SRCMRC) is one of the largest specialty and subspecialty university hospital with about 600-beds exclusively in service of cardiac patients in the Middle Eastern countries. It is located in the north of Tehran in 110000 square meters of richly wooded land adjoined by Mellat Park, one of Tehran's most beautiful park. It was founded in 1970 with 300 beds and over the years the facilities, both scientific and technological have expanded.

The patients at this center receive the benefits of advanced technology in conjunction with highly educated and experienced scientific staffs and along with care and attention that focus on their needs. We currently enjoy the services of over 2059 staff members, 133 full-time medical faculty members, and 234 residents, specialist fellows, and subspecialist fellows in various cardiovascular disciplines. The Center currently features a total of 583 beds, comprised of 117 CCU beds, 93 ICU beds for adults and pediatric, 60 Post-CCU beds, 32 Post-ICU beds, 134 Adult Cardiac Ward beds, 46 Pediatric Ward beds, 87 Cardiovascular Surgery Ward beds for Adults and pediatric.

Services

Types of services to cardiac patients

Achievements

- SRCMRC has recently been awarded the title "Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Medicine" by the Iranian Ministry of Health and Higher Education in recognition of the state-of-the-art equipment and cutting-edge treatment modalities which the Center offers through its highly qualified medical and non-medical personnel.
- The Excellency Ranked of medical equipment and material in infection control and Sterile in 2018
- The Excellency Ranked in the National Festival of Successful Hospital Experiences in Resource Management and Costs in 2018
- The Excellency Ranked of Accreditation in 2013 and 2019

Certificates & Standards

- ISO 9001: 2000 from SGS company in Switzerland
- ISO 9001: 2008 from SGS company in Switzerland
- Certificate on green services
- Certificate on total quality management
- Certificate on Health Promoting Hospital (HPH*) from World Health Organization



SHAHEED RAJAIE
Cardiovascular Medical & Research Institute



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Imam Reza Hospital

Brief Overview

Imam Reza Hospital is one of the biggest hospitals in Mashhad. Founded in 1934. Boasting more than 1200 beds, Imam Reza Hospital is categorized as a first-class general hospital in Iran, is also utilized as a medical research center. The hospital has various wards and specialty clinics.

The clinics are Orthopedics, Urology, General Surgery, Dermatology, Ophthalmology, Internal, Otorhinolaryngology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Casualty Department, and Family Planning. Imam Reza Hospital comprises of 36 wards.

They are Orthopedics, Urology, Nephrology, Surgery, Critical Care Unit, Cardiology, Internal Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Open Heart Surgery, Angiography, Internal (hepatic, endocrinology, hematology, etc.), Infectious Diseases, Rheumatology, Pediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Neonatology, Infants' ICU, Women's Surgery, Psychosomatic, Burn Reconstruction and Plastic Surgery, Dialysis, Lithotripsy, etc.

The Para-clinic of the hospital has the following units: Radiology, Sonography, Mammography, CT Scan, CT Angiography, MRI, Laboratory, Pathology, Endoscopy, Radiology, Sonography, Mammography, CT Scan, CT Angiography, MRI, Laboratory, Pathology, Endoscopy, Aerodynamics, Hemodialysis, Peritoneal Dialysis, Sleep Disorders Clinic, Laser Therapy, Electrocautery, Phototherapy, Electromyography, Electroencephalography, Electrocardiography, Echocardiography (including echo stress, echo-Doppler, etc.), Coronary Angiography, Angioplasty, Pacemaker and ICD, Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring (ABPM), Bone Mineral Densitometry (BMD), Audiometry, Speech-language Pathology, Physiotherapy.

Services

Services in areas that include the following:

Allergy and Asthma, Arthritis and Rheumatology, Behavioral Health, Cancer, Dermatology, Ear, Nose and Throat, Emergency and Trauma, Employee Health and Wellness, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Heart and Vascular, Nephrology, Neurology and Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, Pain Management, Palliative Care, Pulmonology and Respiratory, Radiology, Sleep, Surgery, Therapy and Rehabilitation, Transplant, Urology, Wellness and Prevention, Women's



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Mehr Hospital

Brief Overview

Mehr Hospital is one of the well-known Iranian private hospitals. It was established in 1946 with the aim of promoting the public health in Tehran through providing safe, effective, and patient-focused therapeutic and diagnostic services to all people nationwide and in the region.

Health-Centered Hospital/Providing Patients with Quality and Safe Services Presence of Experienced Physicians and Committed Personnel/Speed in Service Delivery and Responsiveness.

Services

- Angioplasty
- Brain Surgery
- Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting
- Disk Surgery
- Endoscopy and Colonoscopy
- Hysterectomy
- Liver Cysts
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Surgical Treatment of Knee Pain
- Thyroidectomy

Certificates & Standards

- Implementing Integrated Management System/Updating Medical Equipment
- Implementing National Accreditation Standards/Providing Patients with Quality and Safe Services
- IPD certificate of approval



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Noor Eye Hospital

Brief Overview

Noor Ophthalmology Complex commenced its activities in 1993 by establishing the first subspecialized eye clinic in Iran. The establishment of Noor Subspecialty Eye Hospital in 2007, as the second stage of this project, marked a significant milestone in providing patients with access to modern ophthalmic services.

Noor Ophthalmology Complex is currently recognized as the first private, non-governmental ophthalmology center in Iran, with a history of more than three decades of continuous activity. It provides a wide range of advanced diagnostic and therapeutic services in ophthalmology to patients from around the world. The complex's commitment to delivering various treatments and performing complicated eye surgeries has earned it praise from the Iranian and global ophthalmology community. Through consistent efforts in scientific, practical, and technological advancements, Noor Ophthalmology Complex has successfully maintained its superiority in Iran and the Middle East.

Services

Noor Eye Hospital has been a pioneer in implementing a wide range of therapeutic techniques, including surgeries for refractive error correction (PRK, Femto-LASIK, and Femto-SMILE), as well as surgeries for cataracts (phacoemulsification and Femto-cataract), cornea, retina, and more in Iran. The quality of services offered by this complex can be compared to the most reputable medical centers worldwide.

Achievements

- Performing the first refractive surgery using excimer and femtosecond lasers in Iran
- Performing the first laser surgeries to correct corneal opacities in Iran
- Performing the highest number of refractive surgeries in Iran and the Middle East
- Implanting intracorneal ring segments for the correction of myopia and keratoconus for the first time in Iran
- Performing the first surgery to correct hyperopia using guided waves in Iran
- Implanting intraocular lenses for the correction of myopia
- Performing the first cataract surgery using the phacoemulsification technique in Iran
- Performing the first laser-assisted cataract surgery in Iran
- Implementing innovative techniques for corneal graft procedures

Certificates & Standards

- IPD certificate of approval



NOOR Eye Hospital



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Nemazee Hospital

Brief Overview

Nemazee Hospital was founded in 1924. Specialty Wards:

Orthopedic, Pediatric Allergy-Immunology, Anesthesia, Pathology, Nuclear Medicine, General Surgery, Urology Surgery, Neurosurgery, Radiology and Oncology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Radiology, Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy, Pediatric Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Cardiology, Neurology, **General Internal Medicine Subspecialty Wards:** Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Thoracic Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Cardiac Surgery, Pediatric Surgery, General Internal Medicine (Hematology and Oncology), General Internal Medicine (Endocrine), General Internal Medicine (Nephrology), General Internal Medicine (Gastroenterology), Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Pediatric Endocrine, Pediatric Cardiology, Pediatric Nephrology, Pediatric Gastroenterology, Neonatal and Pediatric Neurology

Services


Distinctive Services and Facilities: Organ transplantation including liver, heart, kidney, pancreas, and bone marrow transplantations, General Angiography, Cardiac Angiography, Coronary Angiography, Cardiac surgery, Neurosurgery, Epilepsy Surgery, Urology Surgery, DBS Surgery, EWAR- TEWAR Surgery, Nuclear Medicine and Radiotherapy Center, The Most Advanced Mammography Screening Equipment in the Middle East.


Ancillary Services: Ambulance Services, Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Services, Audiology Services, Cardiac Monitoring, Dialysis Services, Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Hearing Services, Laboratory Services, Mobile Diagnostic Services, Radiology/Diagnostic Imaging, Rehabilitation Services, Sleep Laboratory Services, Substance-Abuse Services, Ventilator Services, Wound-Care Services


Achievements


- Nemazee Hospital owns the largest and most advanced Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Therapy Center in the region. This hospital was incorporated into Shiraz University in 1964 so as to benefit from government subsidies.
- Nemazee Hospital was the first hospital in Iran where organ transplantation was conducted. Currently, it is the main liver and pancreas transplantation center in the region. Liver, heart, kidney, pancreas, and bone marrow transplantations are among the plethora of surgeries performed at the hospital.



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Erfan Hospital

Brief Overview

Erfan Hospital is a private specialty and subspecialty hospital established in 2007, to provide advanced health, treatment and medical services based on human values and dignity. This hospital, enjoys 180 active beds ordered in one-bed and two-bed rooms and the intensive care units. It is constructed in a site with an area of 4480 square meter with 20,000 square meter of constructed area in 9 floors. Erfan is one of the best equipped hospitals in Iran, established in accordance with the latest hospital standards, and designed and constructed as a general hospital, enjoying well equipped operation rooms for all specialty and subspecialty fields.

The presence of prominent professors, experienced doctors and committed personnel, has made this hospital the best private hospital in Iran in the hearts and minds of the patients. The Erfan hospitals group offers various services for international patients. The International Patient Department (IPD) manages the medical examination, diagnosis, and treatment for international patients and also ensures a pleasant stay in single or double rooms at the hospital.

Services

Services for International Patients: General Surgery, Neurosurgery, Orthopedics, Urology, Cardiac surgery, Interventional cardiac surgery, Aesthetic surgery, Ear, Nose and Throat, Gynecology and Obstetrics, Gastroenterology, Pulmonology & Thoracic surgery, medical management of the internal diseases

Achievements

- Achievement of excellent first grade based on the accreditation by the Ministry of Health for three consecutive years
- Experienced doctors and committed personnel
- Providing novel medical services at the international levels
- Equipped with the most advanced laboratories and medical imaging centers with accurate performance
- Rapid provision of the services and accountability
- Providing special services to the doctors and patients
- Full implementation of national and international accreditation standards
- Achievement of the Diamond level, the highest level of Accreditation Canada International (ACI) in 2016
- Certified by the Ministry of Health to admit the international patients



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Kasra Hospital

Brief Overview

Kasra Hospital includes the units: (1) Emergency, (2) CCU, (3) Intensive Care Unit (ICU-G, ICU-OH), (4) cardiovascular, surgical, pediatrics, gynecology, obstetrics and the other units (POST CATH, neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), angiography (catheterization), Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), nuclear medicine, radiology, crusher, hemodialysis, hearing and amplification hearing aid clinic, laser clinic, and hair transplant) which were launched in the next few years.

Services

▪ The inpatient departments of the hospital include:

Emergency department, pediatrics, surgery, internal medicine, heart surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, neonates, CCU, post cath, delivery block, general operating room, cardiac operating room, clinic, cath lab, dialysis, NICU, general ICU, cardiac ICU

▪ Paraclinical sections of hospital include:

Lab: Blood bank, hormone and genetics, microbiology, pathobiology

Imaging section: (1.5 Tesla) MRI, radiology, CT. Scan, mammography, sonography digital, trans-recta- vaginal sonography, color sonography (color vessels Doppler), intervention radiology, Digital Panorex, Cephalometry, pre-epical single tooth radiography

Endoscopy: Bronchoscopy, spirometer, sleep test, Urodynamic

ECG: Angiography, angioplasty, exercise test, electrocardiography, Holtz monitoring, Electro-encephalography, electromyography

Physical medicine and physiotherapy: audiometry, laser (prostate, skin, hemorrhoid), hair implant, nuclear medicine, stone crush

▪ Existing specialties at Kasra Hospital:

General surgery, Gynecology and obstetrics, E.N.T., anesthesia, lab, pediatrics, neonates, pediatrics surgery, physical medicine, internal medicine, blood and oncology, neuro-cerebral surgery, heart surgery, cardiovascular surgery, Thorax surgery, ophthalmology, lungs, endocrines and metabolism, digestive system and liver, internal diseases, neurology, plastic surgery, urology, nephrology, cardiovascular, radiology, maxillofacial surgery, orthopedics, pharmacy

Certificates & Standards

- Certificate of Accreditation with excellent grade
- IPD certificate of approval



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Nikan hospital-hotel

Brief Overview

On June 27th, 2011 Nikan hospital was officially opened. During the first year of evaluation, Nikan got the first high rank in Accreditation and Patient safety and became the first private hospital in Iran to earn the Green Award International certificate.

From 1990s, customer oriented and patient centered approached the accretion in quality of health service became the policy of health system of Iran.

Within this new and modern method through which the patient, as well as the client, were considered the center of services. The center could successfully have recruited so many managers and became the basis for customer oriented culture in the hospital.

Services

- ENT
- Maxillofacial Surgery
- 24/7 Emergency
- ICU – CCU
- Orthopedics (Knee, Scapula, Hand and Arm specialists)
- Plastic Surgery
- General Surgery
- Neurology
- Neurosurgery
- Urology (Kidney and urinary tract surgery)
- Pain Clinics
- Maternal and Child Health
- Gastroenterology & Scopy
- Pharmaceutical
- Physiotherapy
- Laboratory & Pathology

Certificates & Standards

- Certification of IPD for providing the qualified services to the international patients
- The global green award from Other Ways Association–management and Consulting (France)
- OHSAS 18001
- ISO 9001
- ISO 10002
- ISO 10015



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Royan Institute

Brief Overview

Royan Institute is a renowned center committed to multidisciplinary, campus-wide, integration and collaboration of academic and medical personnel for understanding male/female infertility, embryo development, stem cell biology, and biotechnology. Royan Institute provides comprehensive services for the infertility treatment, regenerative medicine/cell therapy, production of recombinant proteins and development of biological products.

Royan Institute was established in 1991 by the late Dr Saeid Kazemi Ashtiani and a group of researchers and physicians in Iran University of Medical Sciences of Academic Center for Education, Culture and Research (ACECR) as an outpatient surgery center to provide medical services to infertile couples as well as research and training in reproductive sciences. In 2002, the research fields in Royan Institute extended into stem cell studies as well. Afterward the research findings were adjusted to application in regenerative medicine and cell therapy approaches. Royan Institute focuses on increasing the success rate of infertility treatment alongside embryo health, and the level of public health through cell therapy clinical services.

Services

This center provides comprehensive services for the infertility treatment, regenerative medicine/cell therapy, production of recombinant proteins and development of biological products. International Patients Department (IPD) provides services in Infertility Treatments, Regenerative Medicine, Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism including:

- Online and in-person consultation by IPD doctor via email, WhatsApp and in-person
- Referral to specialist's teams by the IPD doctor
- Schedule of an in-person appointment
- Submission of medical treatment letter to the embassy to issue a visa, if needed
- Company of interpreters and translators fluent in English, French, Arabic, Kurdish and Turkish throughout the treatment at the center
- Providing necessary medical training to patients before returning to their home countries
- The treatments given to patients will properly be followed up online on their return to their home countries

Achievements

- Established as the first infertility treatment center in Tehran, Iran.
- Implements tightly aligned treatment protocols informed by ongoing research.
- Boasts a remarkable success rate, having witnessed the birth of over 40,000 babies using ART techniques.
- Offers a variety of specialized consultation services to address individual needs.
- Comprises an expert medical team with diverse specialties, ensuring comprehensive care.
- Provides services comparable in quality to those offered by leading European and American infertility treatment centers.
- Committed to training skilled personnel, including specialists, to ensure future advancements.
- Offers all types of infertility surgeries at lower prices compared to other private centers, making treatment more accessible.



[www.inf.royan.org /en/](http://www.inf.royan.org/en/)



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