



HYGEIA GROUP

HYGEIA HOSPITAL TIRANA

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **In December, 2009 the FIRST private hospital in Albania will commence operations**

In December, 2009, HYGEIA HOSPITAL TIRANA is expected to commence operations. It will be the first private hospital the HYGEIA Group will build in Albania.

“The completion of this hospital **a new era in private health care will begin in Albania**. Today, private care in Greece does not merely operate as a supplement to public care but is a pioneer in new technology, services and medical accomplishments. The strong presence of the HYGEIA Group, a group that is characterized by reliability and quality, is the key to this new beginning”, declared the President of HYGEIA Group, Konstantinos Stavrou during a presentation of the hospital’s progress at a science exhibit in Albania that occurred on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Tirana Sheraton.

Among those present at the exhibit at the exhibit were the Albanian Minister of Health, Professor Anila Godo, Albanian Minister of Labor, Anastas Duro, the Chairman of the Albanian Parliament’s Health Committee, Dr. Tritan Shehu, and the Greek Ambassador to Albania, Nikolas Pazios.

The Health Minister declared, “HYGEIA HOSPITAL TIRANA will implement innovative techniques like in the area of oncology, and in general will offer services currently lacking in our country. For us, **the private sector operates as a supplement to the public sector**. For this reason, we fully support all areas of the private sector so that the patient is given the best possible care.

For his part, the Greek Ambassador to Albania emphasized that **“this hospital will be an example of the closeness of Greek-Albanian bilateral relations”**.

At the presentation of the new hospital, the Managing Director of HYGEIA Group, Themistoklis Charamis noted that, “HYGEIA Group is the largest Group in the private healthcare sector in Greece and aspires to become the largest complete health care provider in Southeastern Europe, the Mediterranean and the Middle East. The founding of HYGEIA HOSPITAL TIRANA represents the Group’s initial expansion into the Balkans region and **the largest investment in the private healthcare sector in Albania**, which amounts to €50 million”.

Mr. Charamis thanked the Albanian government for its continued support of this project because, as he stated, “Without its important assistance, this hospital would have never become a reality”.

HYGEIA HOSPITAL TIRANA will be located at the junction of the main traffic arteries in Tirana and its size will be 25,000sq.m.

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“This will be an ultra-modern seven-storey hospital with a 200-bed capacity. It has been designed in accordance with all internationally recognized standards that have already been applied all over the world”, HYGEIA Group’s Director of Organization and Development, Antonis Rapp, characteristically stated. He added, **“Our objective is to treat patients not only here in Albania but from neighboring countries as well, like Kosovo, FYROM and Montenegro”**.

The hospital will employ approximately 400 people who will be trained in Greece, Albania and other European countries and who will provide medical, nursing, technical and administrative care to their patients and relatives.

“In particular, regarding the medical staff, **our objective and desire is the participation of the entire Albanian medical community**. We are ready to listen to any proposal regarding training, equipment and medical practice so that we can better and more quickly utilize your knowledge and experience”, declared the General Director of HYGEIA HOSPITAL TIRANA, Mr Thanas Poci, while addressing the doctors who were present at the exhibit.

**HYGEIA HOSPITAL TIRANA is a hospital that was missing in our country.** It is a great opportunity for all of us to turn the page and move forward”, concluded Poci.

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