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**THE PROVINCIAL HOSPITALS IN THE MEDICAL SERVICE OF  
SOUTHERN UKRAINE ZEMSTVO**

Ordinances of public care in all provincial towns passed their charitable institutions that were complex institutions for treatment and care of adults and children to zemstvo. The centers of these complexes were hospitals, which later became provincial hospitals.

It was found at once unsatisfactory condition of the hospital premises in Kherson that's why zemstvo started the works on improvement, renovation and expansion of the institutions which followed with substantial expanses for several decades.

A school of medical assistants was opened in the province hospital in 1872. For a certain period of time there also was a midwife school.

With all the positive aspects of medical practice it was gradually found that the provincial hospital didn't have significant influence on the whole province due to the patients list it was Kherson town hospital. The town authorities constantly refused to participate in the maintenance of the provincial hospital. In the early twentieth century there was an offer to liquidate the hospital among agencies of zemstvo and doctors, but due to medical assistant school and some other reasons this idea failed.

Tavria provincial hospital followed the same trends in its work. Despite the expansion of its activity, due to the limited area of health care (mainly in Simferopol and Simferopol district) there was a question connected with its closure. Provincial zemstvo tried to solve it more actively, but this intention failed due to the presence of specific province hospital units (Oleksandrivske Department of Surgery, Oleksandrivski chambers, Mykolayiv clinic) because their origin was associated with the royal family.

Chisinau hospital of Bessarabian zemstvo was the largest in the southern region of the country (300 beds) and the most expensive. It had medical assistants

and midwife schools. It also didn't provide medical care to residents of peripheral provinces including the southern districts. This caused the discontent of counties and offer to close provincial hospital, which also failed.

In all the southern provinces all the funds released as a result of the proposed elimination of provincial hospitals were supposed to spend for the development of the county medical service which needed it all the time.

In the last period the existence of the provincial zemstvo didn't allow the elimination of province hospitals because of hospitals for wounded and sick soldiers of the First World War.