

Health Travel Annual Survey 2020

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Medical Tourism Association

Finland



POTENTIAL SERVICE AREAS:

- Preventative care & "health holidays"
- Cancer treatment
- Orthopedics, sports medicine
- Heart diseases
- Gynecology, childbirth & infertility treatment
- Arthroplasty and spinal (back) surgery
- Vaccinations for children
- Rehabilitation services



OPPORTUNITIES:

- Export of know-how related to major development areas in Russia (e.g. rehabilitation).
- Wealthy and middle-class Russians continue to be potential customers. Wealthy patients have low trust in Russian services and look for luxury services, "second opinions" and anonymity.
- Despite of the economical and political situation, people get sick and seek medical treatment from abroad.
- Russian health tourism is estimated by different sources between 15,000
 - 150,000 patients per year and estimated around 1-2 BUSD per year. There's a potential and we should invest in the Russian market.



RISKS:

- Rapid exchange rate changes of the Russian ruble
- New restrictions on visa practices
- Structural and economical reforms might affect the long term outlook
- COVID-19 in short / medium term



CHALLENGES:

- COVID-19
- Different culture and consumer behavior (Russians are demanding consumers)
- Payment policies
- Last minute cancellations
- Competing countries with established reputation in medical tourism
- Getting Finland's brand in medical treatment well-known
- Ensuring the reliability of local intermediaries



DEVELOPMENT NEEDS:

- Build customer loyalty / trust.
- Increase the Finnish healthcare providers brand awareness in the Russian market.
- Provide a seamless customer journey and better experiences in healthcare
- Provide other activities pre and post treatment / examination (especially related to rehabilitation). In this way we can possibly attract larger groups (families and friends) to visit at the same time while buying/using our healthcare services in Finland.
- Build a strong partnership network with various stakeholders on the Russian market.
- Communication & Russian language services





POTENTIAL SERVICE AREAS:

- Preventative healthcare & wellbeing (mental and physical)
- Diagnostics, incl. (executive) health check ups and cancer screening
- Cancer treatment
- IVF especially for women couples and families who would like to have a second child
- Special vaccination
- Rehabilitation services; combining recovery and holiday
- Second opinion services



OPPORTUNITIES:

- Chinese people are gaining more wealth and can therefore travel more as well as take
 care of themselves and their family members more freely. Therefore an increasing
 number of people afford to travel abroad for treatments.
- The political problems China has with the USA is good for Finland, as people who
 used to have the USA might decide to come to Finland instead. At the moment, Finland
 has a good opportunity to utilize both the economical and political situation in
 China (however this might change when the Corona virus is over).
- New collaboration opportunities have already emerged as the Chinese Government invests more in healthcare and rehabilitation availability and quality.
- Two children policy gives us a good opportunity to develop IVF products for the Chinese market.



CHALLENGES:

- COVID-19: economical effects; ban on group & international travel; Chinese population now
 has a growing trust towards Chinese medical system.
- Finland is too unknown as a medical destination. **The country brand** should be built before smaller companies e.g. hospitals have any chance of attracting customer on their own.
- Finland's **limited medical collaborative network** in China, incl. local clinics & hospitals
- Finland hasn't formed a unique selling point strategically in medical treatments to Chinese market.
- Finland's healthcare system is still strongly focused on the public sector, and the offering that can be privately handled is very limited.
- Low trust and lack of supervision (of IVF services) in China. First of all, we have to build the confidence on IVF for Chinese people.



CHALLENGES:

- Geographical and cultural distance
- Language skills: many Chinese people does not speak fluently English. In Finland we have to be able to provide services in Chinese.
- Payment policies
- How to build the confidence
- The visa process needs to be simplified. Easy visa approval will increase the demand for medical travel.
- Global competition for medical travelers is hard and increases all the time as demand for health related travelling grows.
- Travel industry is also very sensitive for economical fluctuations even that medical focus reduces the influence.



DEVELOPMENT NEEDS:

- Co-operation with local clinics; joint investments
- Build strong partnership network with various stakeholders in the Chinese market
- Build trust / confidence
- Learn more about the Chinese culture
- Provide a seamless customer journey (end to end) and better experiences in healthcare.
- Provide other activities pre and post treatment / examination
 (especially related to rehabilitation). In this way we can possibly attract
 larger groups (families and friends) to visit at the same time while
 buying/using our healthcare services in Finland.





How do you see the future of medical tourism in Finland?

- We see the future, but we don't know when it will get to that point. It really requests active collaboration
 from all players, including hopefully also public hospitals.
- Will increase. Just need to invest more on visibility and deals.
- The demand for affordable quality medical treatments is rising and, therefore, there is a good chance for Finland to stand out from competition
- Very promising.
- Health tourism is a niche that Finland has lot to offer and should focus more, not only in terms of
 excellent healthcare expertise but also as a clean, safe and peaceful destination.
- We hope that patient flow will grow up.
- Finland has good facilities and expertise in the care of foreign patients also in the future.



How do you see the future of medical tourism in Finland?

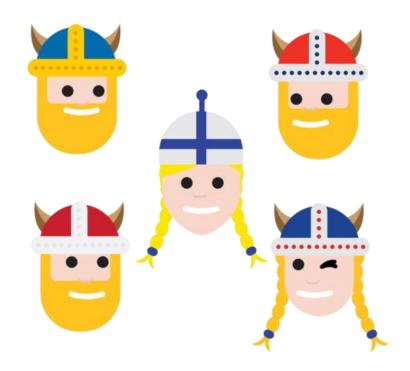
- There is definitely a growing potential in the future. In Finland, we have healthcare providers that can deliver high quality- and safe healthcare for medical travelers. The demand on the target markets is also growing. But if we want to succeed in Finland, it requires know-how, commitment, resources and collaboration with various stakeholders in the field (healthcare, insurance, travel / tourism industry). We also need to increase the Finnish healthcare providers brand awareness on the target markets. It takes time to get familiar with a new culture and to build trust and customer loyalty.
- Positive for those who are active.
- Positive
- Have a heavy investment in marketing from government level.
- It will be growing.
- **Uncertain** at the moment.



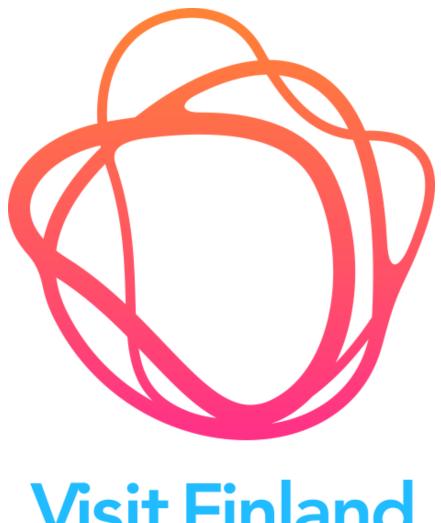


Do you see any new "rising" markets?

- Sweden
- Ukraine
- Belarus
- Baltic states
- India?
- Strengthening the existing ones







Visit Finland