



**Preparation and action of responsible state authorities, institutions and services in situations of threat and occurrence of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases.**

**Creation and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19 epidemic.**

Bucharest, 26.10.2023

*„Never in the history of Poland has so little been achieved at such great cost”.*



# What has COVID-19 to do with emergency situation?

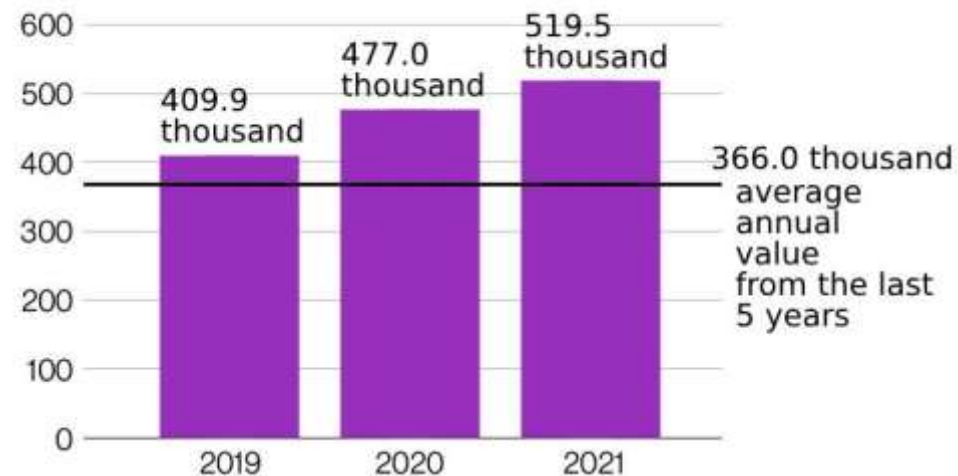
- Article 228 of the Polish Constitution provides for three states of emergency: a state of natural disaster, a state of emergency and martial law
- Each of these states of emergency was regulated by law based on the Constitution
- The 2002 Act on the State of Natural Disaster describes – among others – mass infections that pose a threat to public health – as a kind of natural disaster



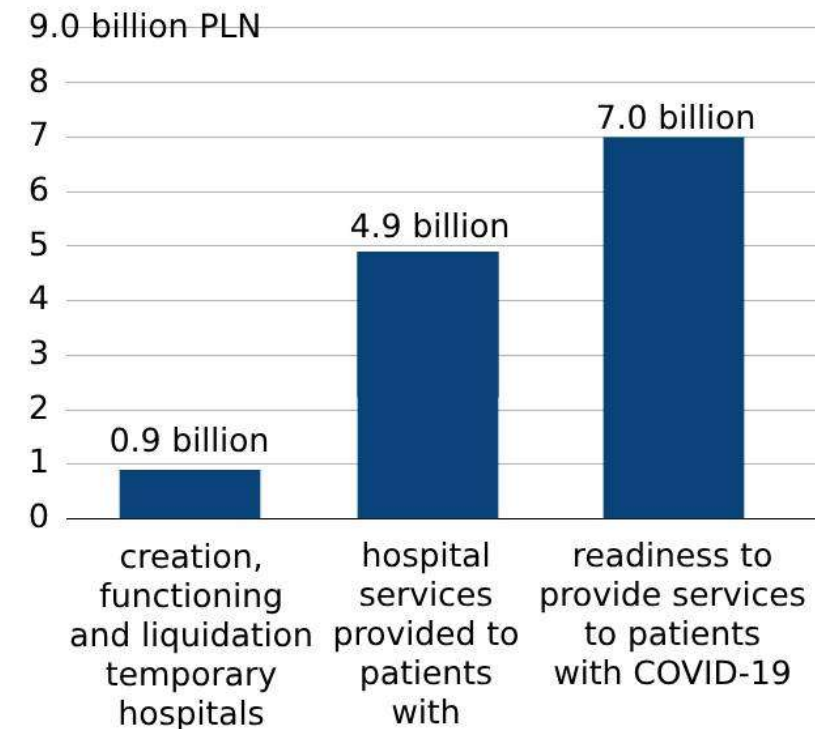
# COVID epidemic in Poland – March 4, 2020 – June 30, 2023

According to official data from the Ministry of Health, 6,519 thousand people were infected with COVID-19. and over 119,000 died. Poles.

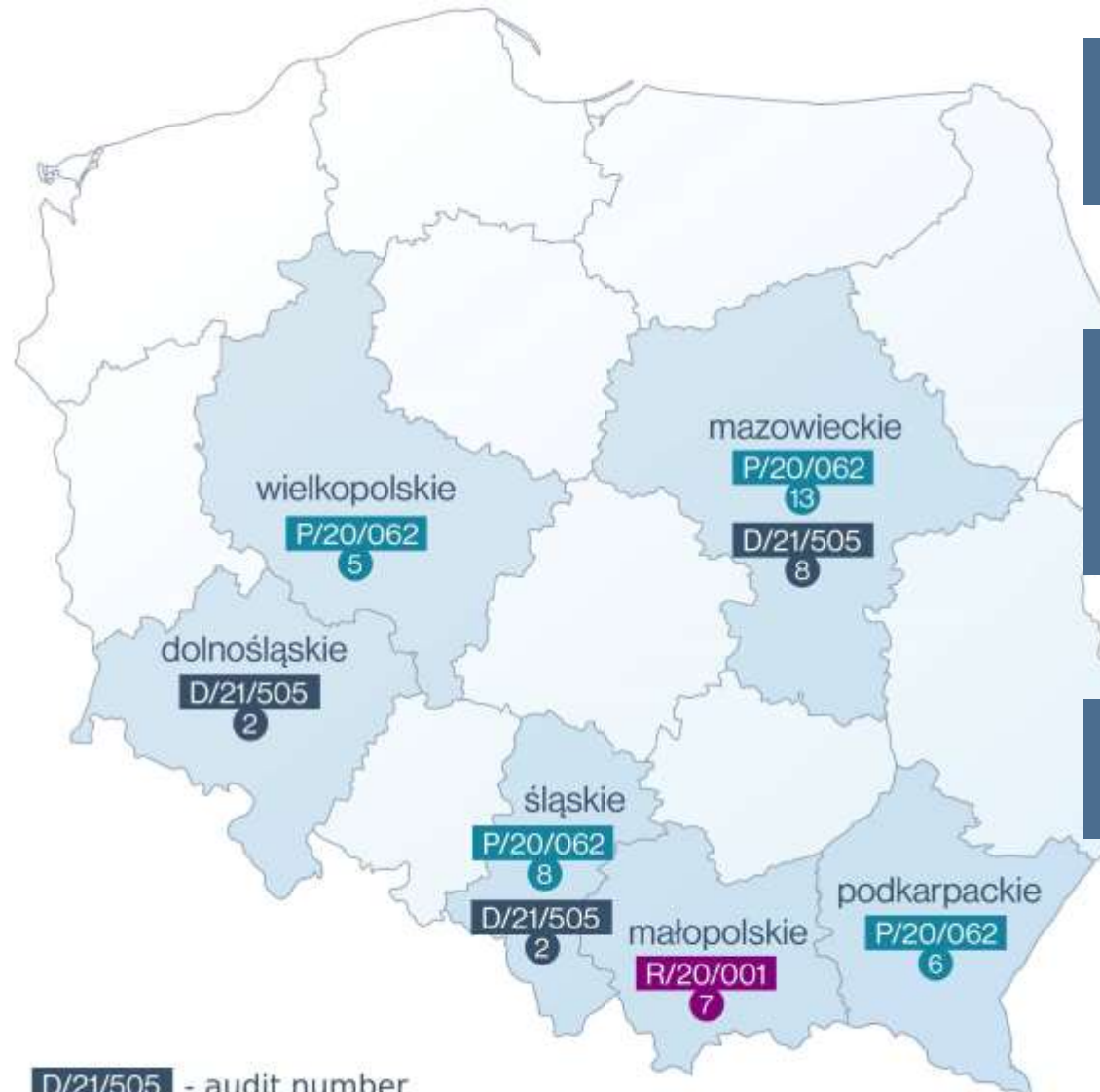
According to data from the Central Statistical Office, 477,000 deaths were recorded in 2020, i.e. 67,100 deaths. more than in 2019, while in 2021 the number of deaths exceeded by almost 154 thousand. average annual value from the last 5 years (519.5 thousand to 366 thousand):



State resources intended to finance health care expenses related to counteracting the epidemic (COVID-19 Countermeasure Fund):



# Five audits in total



D/21/505 - audit number  
6 - number of audited units

R/20/001/LKA

Preparing the health care system to act in the event of the occurrence of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases

P/20/062/LKA

Preparation and action of responsible state authorities, institutions and services in situations of threat and occurrence of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases

D/21/505/LKA

Establishment and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19 epidemic





## Notifications to the prosecutor's office

Inspection of the preparation and operation of the administration during COVID-19 and the establishment and operation of temporary hospitals.

Due to the identified irregularities:

- **4** notifications were sent regarding the Covid-19 response audit, including **3** on the purchase of respirators by the Minister of Health and the Head of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister,
- Following the audit of temporary hospitals, **5** notifications were sent regarding the activities of: the Prime Minister of Poland (concerning creating of the temporary hospital at premises of the National Stadium in Warsaw, Minister of State Assets (2 notifications regarding the incurring of costs for the temporary hospital in Tarnów). the Voivode of Lower Silesia, the Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration in Katowice and the



# Notion to the Constitutional Tribunal of Poland

**Due to the fact that a number of regulations introduced on the basis of the special act raise significant reservations from the point of view of compliance with the Constitution of the Republic of Poland, on June 16, 2023, the President of the Supreme Audit Office submitted, pursuant to Art. 191 section 1 point 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland to the Constitutional Tribunal to declare the provisions of the so called special act of March 2nd and the amending act of March 31st 2020 inconsistent with the Constitution of the Republic of Poland in the following aspects:**

- the procedure for adopting laws is inconsistent with Art. 2 and 7 of the Constitution (mode of procedure, improper *vacatio legis*),
- art. 10, 10a and 11h - violate the right to a court, two-instance proceedings, imposing obligations on local government units and entrepreneurs,
- art. 65 of the amending Act - violates the principle of unity of the state budget from art. 219 of the Constitution.



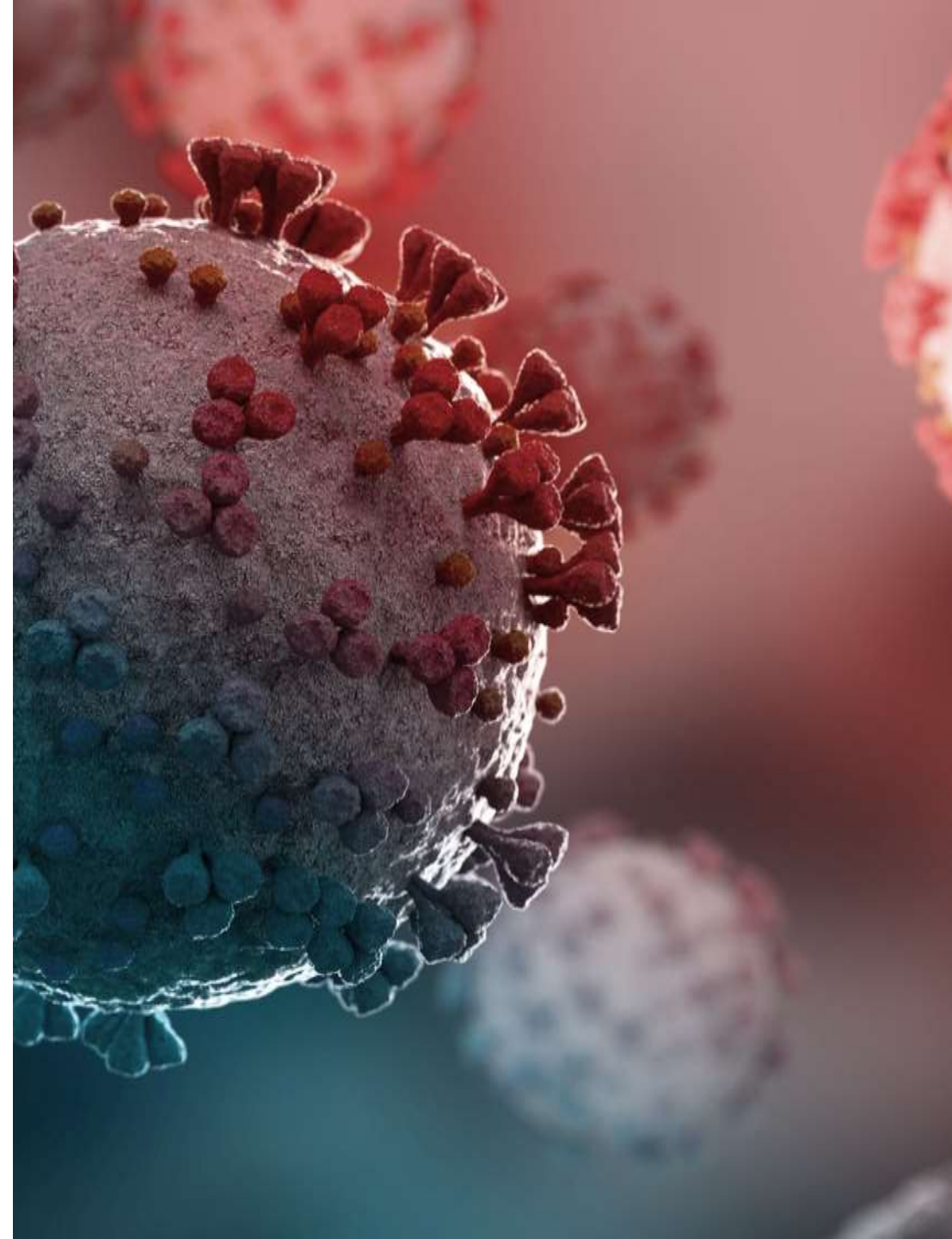


# De lege ferenda notions

- 1. The Prime Minister in consultation with the minister responsible for public finances** should take into account the content of the Resolution of the Supreme Audit Office of June 7, 2023 regarding the opinion on the discharge of the Council of Ministers for 2022, which indicates the need, among others, to: inclusion of financial plans of funds operated by Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego in the budget act
- 2. Minister of Interior and Administration in consultation with the Minister of Health,** should analyze the experience gained during the COVID-19 epidemic and, on this basis, initiate changes to statutory provisions aimed at:
  - imposing on the Minister of Health the obligation to develop a National Action Plan in the event of an epidemic,
  - unification of the form and content of Provincial Action Plans in the event of an epidemic.

## Preparation and action of responsible state authorities, institutions and services in situations of threat and occurrence of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases.

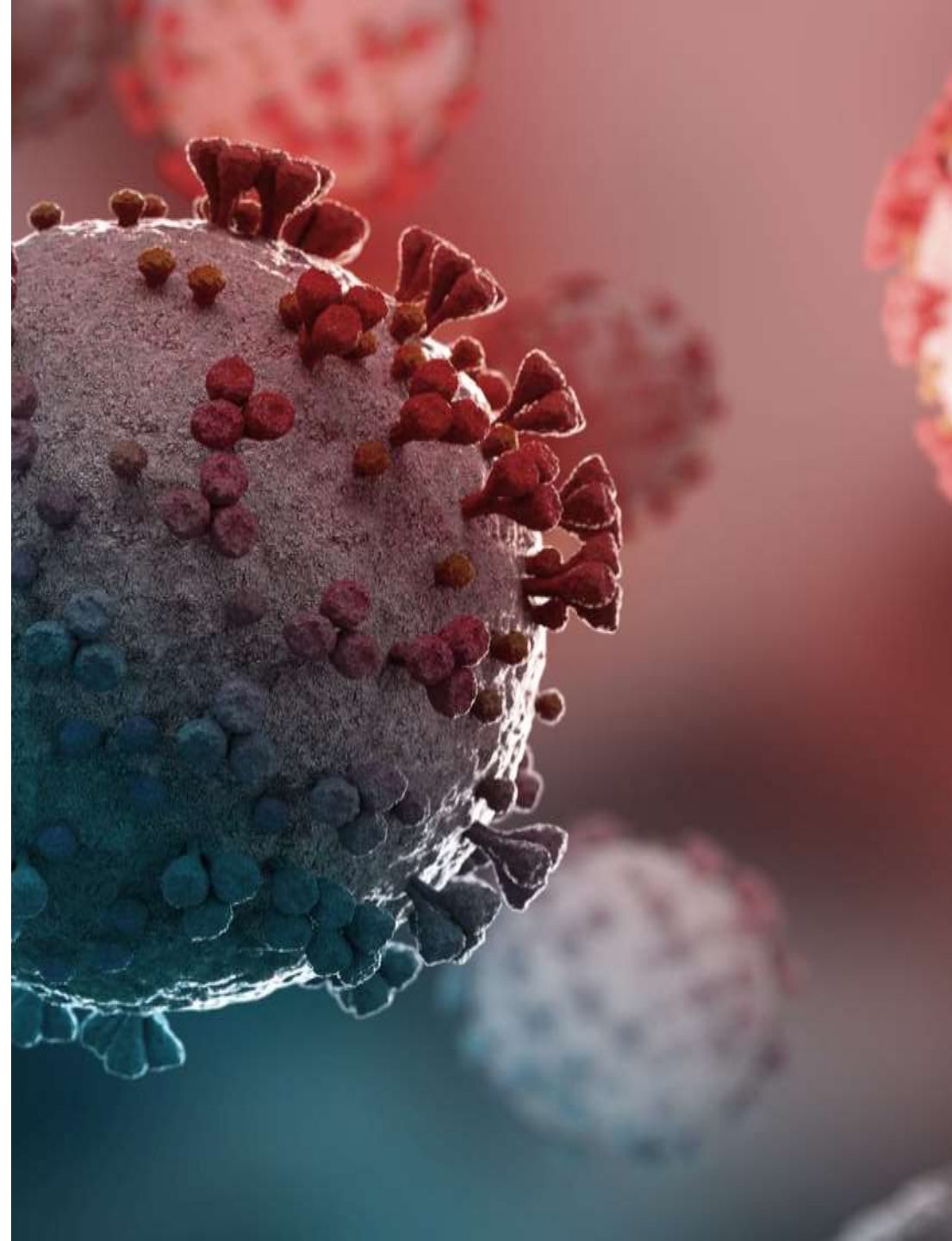
Responsible state authorities and institutions, medical entities and services **were not prepared** to act in the event of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases, which resulted in their inadequate actions during the epidemic caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.





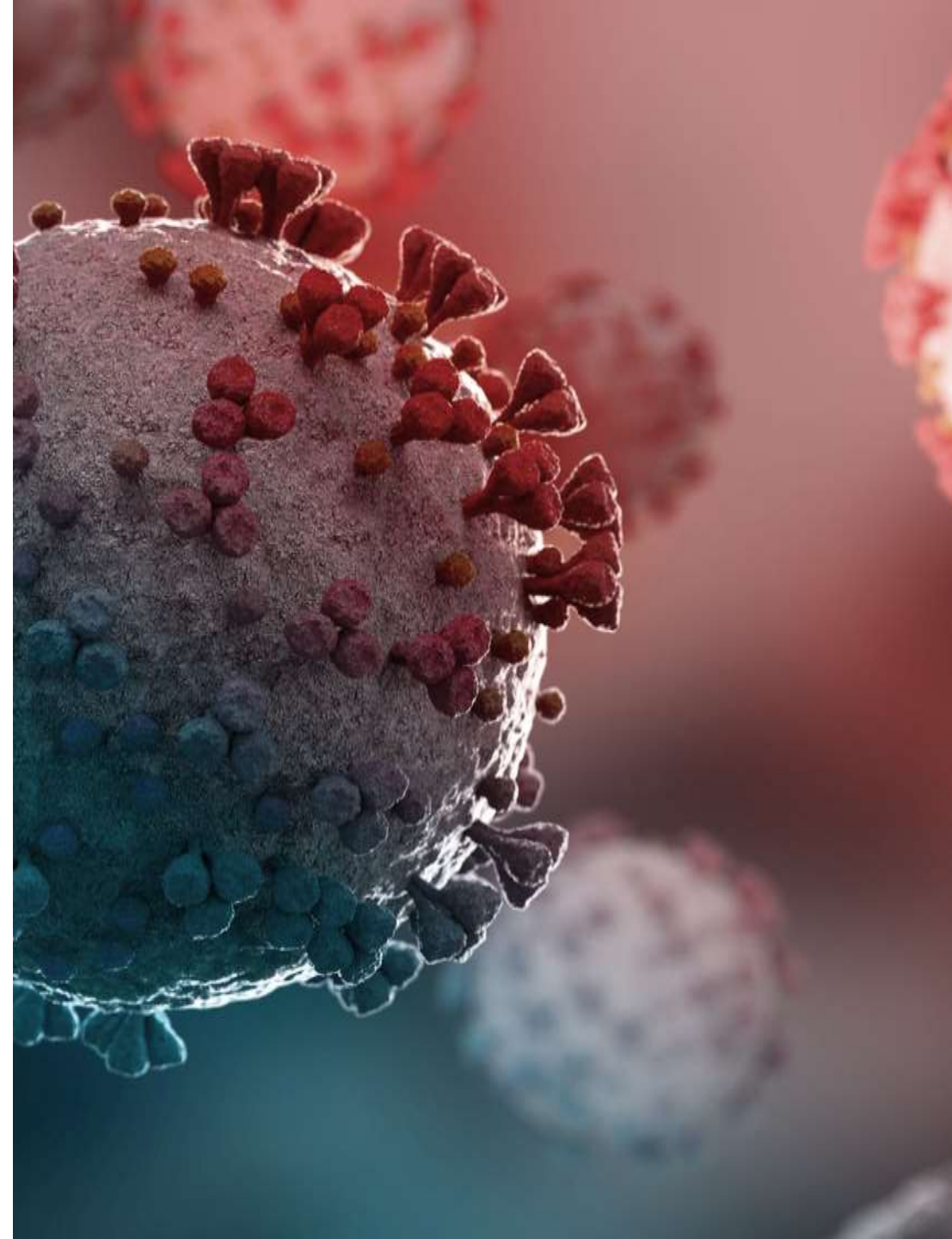
## Preparation and action of responsible state authorities, institutions and services in situations of threat and occurrence of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases.

During the epidemic, responsible state authorities and institutions as well as relevant services took actions that **did not sufficiently** take into account changes in the epidemiological situation, and therefore unreliably implemented the provisions of art. 68 section 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland, the obligation to combat epidemic diseases.



## Preparation and action of responsible state authorities, institutions and services in situations of threat and occurrence of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases.

- The Minister of Health **did not prepare** the health care sector for the return of the epidemic in autumn 2020.
- Changes in the organization of hospital care were introduced ad hoc, based on individual decisions of administrative authorities, **in an uncoordinated manner**.
- A number of hospital beds that were **excessive compared to the needs**, together with the medical staff necessary to provide them, were excluded from the provision of "non-Covid" services, thus creating **unreasonably large** reserves of Covid beds.

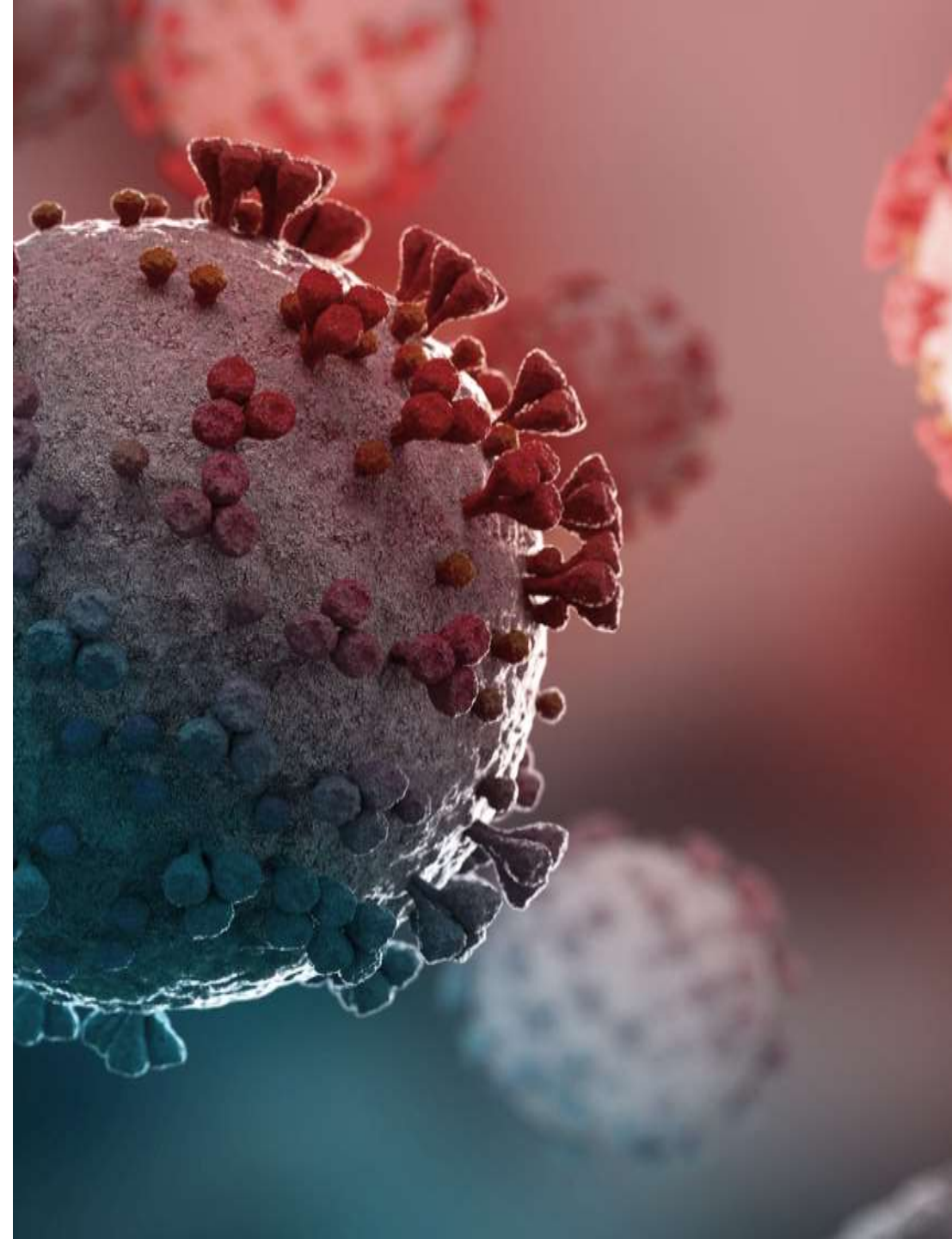




## Preparation and action of responsible state authorities, institutions and services in situations of threat and occurrence of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases.

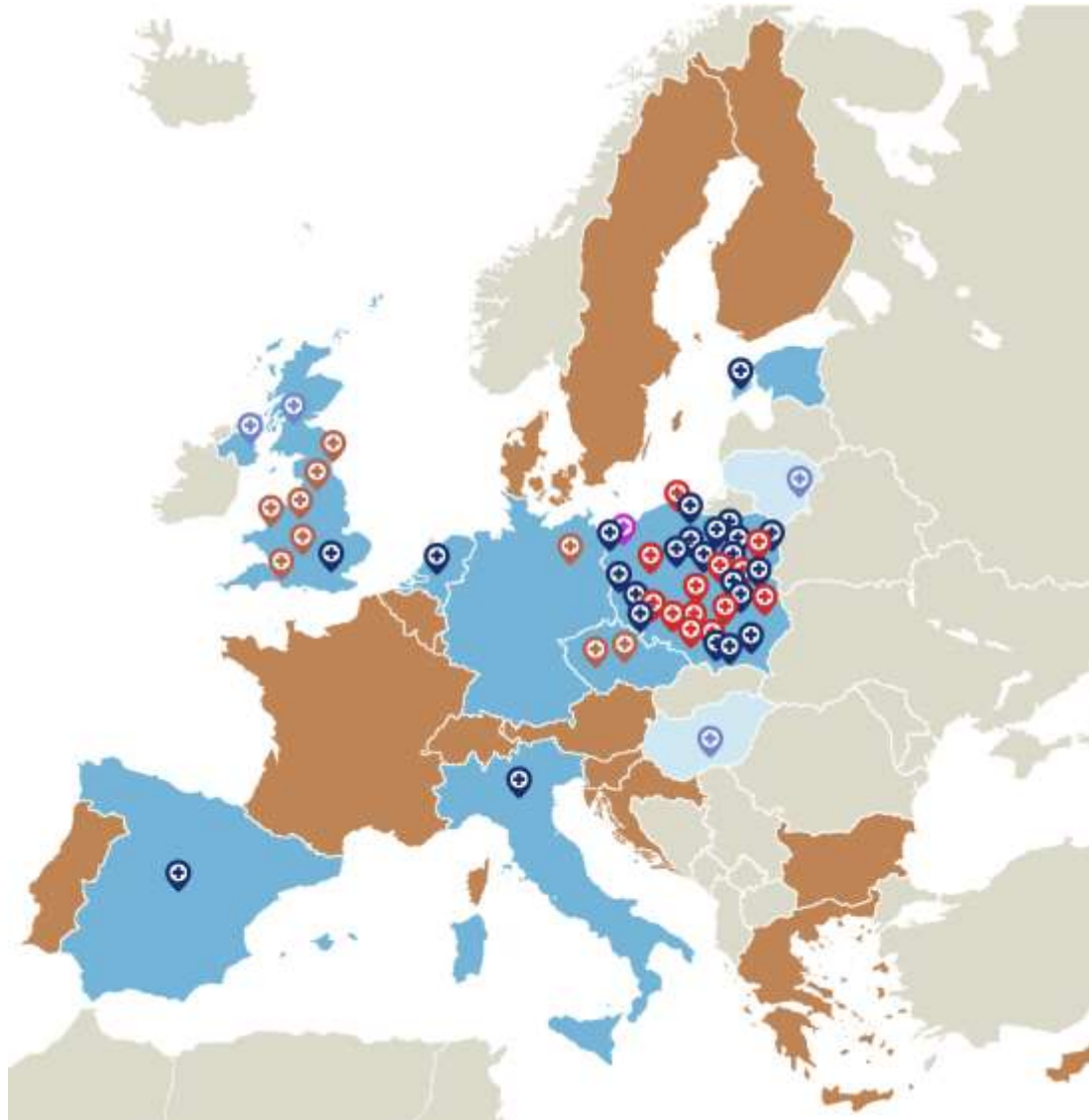
The autumn wave of COVID-19 - in the absence of preparations and plans – introduced new organizational and financial solutions:

- **COVID WARDS AND BEDS,**
- **TEMPORARY HOSPITALS.**





# Creation and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19



- countries where temporary hospitals were established (information from SAI)
- countries where temporary hospitals were established (publicly available information)
- countries where temporary hospitals have not been established
- no data
- 📍 large-scale hospitals
- 📍 hospitals accepting patients
- 📍 hospitals that did not admit any patients
- 📍 no data on patient admission

## Creation and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19

**NIK negatively assesses the activities of state authorities related to the creation, operation and liquidation of temporary hospitals.**

- Actions without a plan, analyzes and calculations (failure to develop a temporary hospitals construction plan in April 2020) despite such a decision of Government Crisis Management Team .
- Irregularities in decisions and agreements on the organization and financing of the operation of temporary hospitals (wasteful expenses - PLN 31.5 million, agreements concluded after patients were admitted - PLN 262 million).



# Creation and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19

**15** Hospital facilities

**4** Modular objects

**14** Large-scale facilities  
\* 1 object has not been started

Total cost of establishing, operating and closing temporary hospitals (PLN thousand)



Average cost of establishing, operating and closing temporary hospitals per 1 bed (PLN)



Average cost of establishing, operating and closing temporary hospitals per patient (PLN)



**Temporary hospitals in large-scale facilities are an ineffective tool to combat COVID-19.**



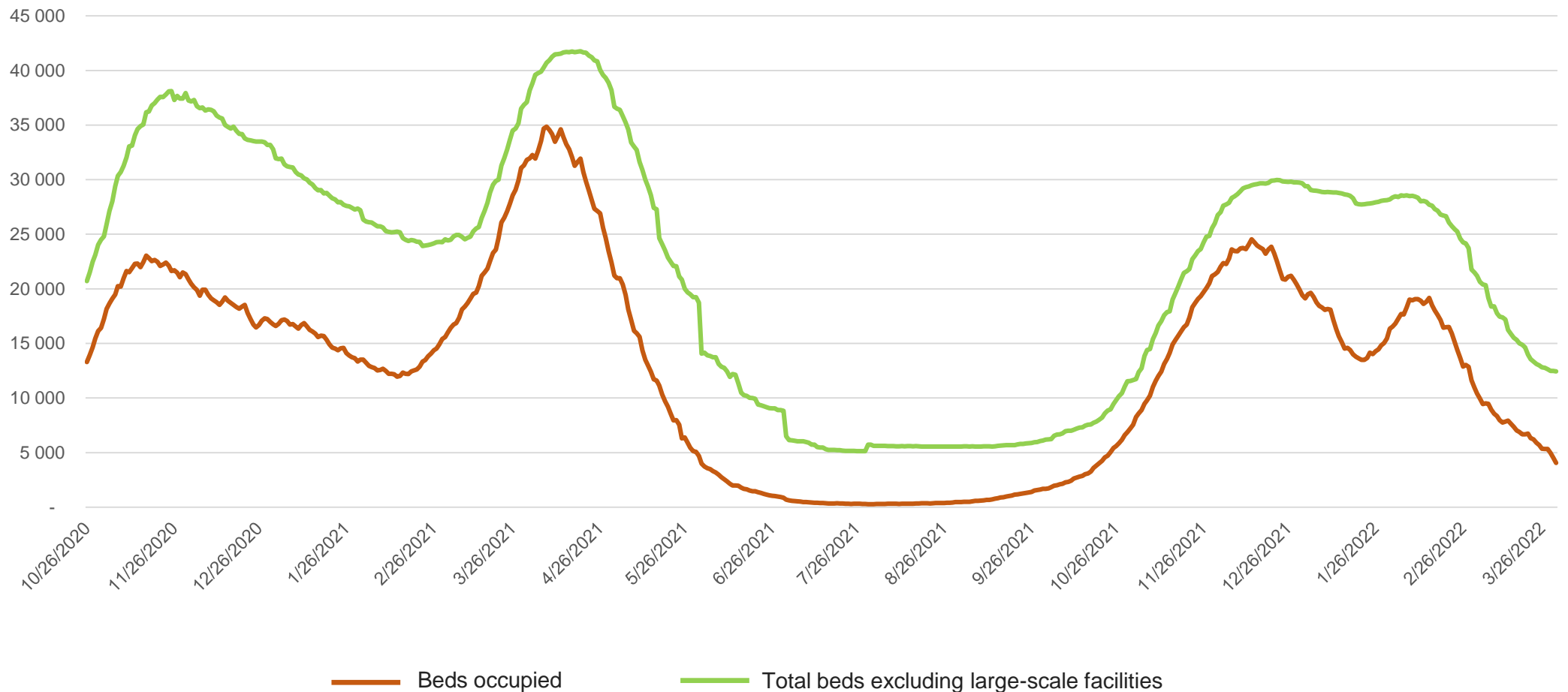
# Creation and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19

	Temporary hospital in Wrocław	Temporary hospital at the National Stadium	Temporary hospital at Netto Arena Szczecin
Costs	85,798.4 thousand zł	72,030.7 thousand zł	29,162.2 thousand zł
Beds	273	550	175 according to the decision of the Ministry of Health
Patients	13294	33014	0
Irregularities	<p><b>PLN 26.7 million</b>, including: <u>PLN 11.0 million</u> - the costs of construction and adaptation of the ST were inflated compared to market prices, and <u>PLN 11.4 million</u> - construction of new hospital facilities, which was beyond the scope of the Ministry of Health's decision.</p>	<p><b>PLN 72.0 million</b> - unintentional creation of a hospital despite the fact that the Masovian Voivodeship had sufficient bed reserves throughout the entire epidemic period.  <u>PLN 11.0 million</u> - for rent, security and operating costs at a time when ST was not accepting patients and the Stadium itself returned to its function.</p>	<p><b>PLN 29.1 million</b> - creation and maintenance of temporary hospitals, despite the fact that the West Pomeranian Voivodeship had sufficient bed reserves throughout the entire epidemic period.</p>



# Creation and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19

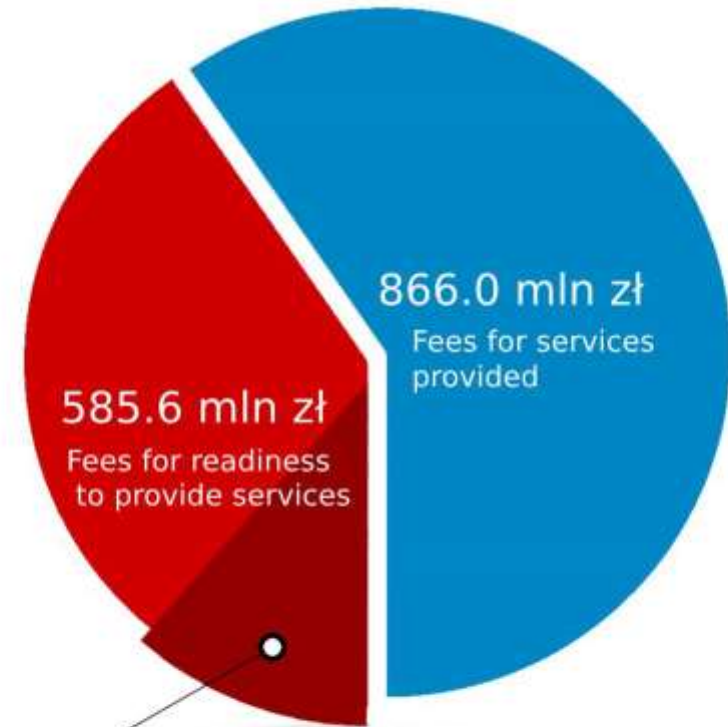
Database of Covid beds and beds occupied if there were no temporary large-scale hospitals (simulation)



# Creation and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19

Just as the expenditure on the creation, operation and liquidation of hospital centers in large-scale facilities was pointless and ineffective, the expenditure of **PLN 165.7 million** to cover the costs of maintaining readiness to provide services by these hospitals was also pointless.

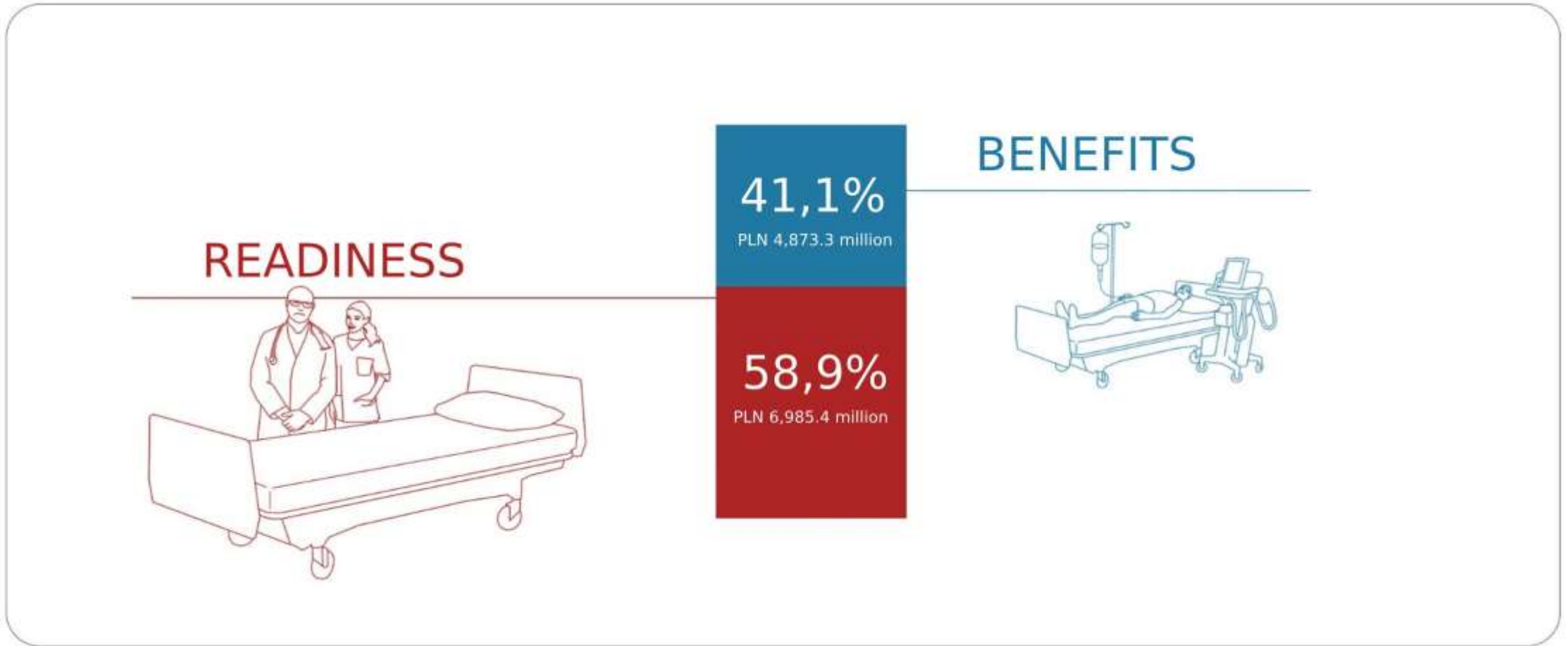
PLN 1,451.6 million in total



Including:  
**165.7 mln zł** fees for readiness to provide services to 13 temporary hospitals operating in large-scale facilities



# PLN 7 billion for preparedness and PLN 5 billion for hospital treatment of COVID-19 patients (March 2, 2020 - March 31, 2022)



## Creation and operation of temporary hospitals created in connection with the COVID-19

The responsible authorities did not analyze and assess the functioning of temporary hospitals during the COVID-19 epidemic in Poland.

Expenditures on the creation and operation of hospitals have not been fully accounted for.

NIK is auditing the use of equipment purchased in connection with COVID-19.





Thank you for your attention

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