

## Chapter 6.

### **DIVERSIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURES ON MEDICINES IN POLAND**

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**Abstract.** *One can observe unequal access to health services in various parts of Poland and in various socio-economic groups. Elimination of differences in access to health services has been regarded as one of the primary objectives of the National Health Program for 2007-2015.*

*Statistical data coming from the reports of the Social Monitoring Council “Social Diagnosis. Conditions and quality of life of the Poles”, covering a period of 2000-2009, constitute a basis of the empirical analysis results presented in this paper. The data show household expenditure on medicines in various Polish voivodships (provinces)<sup>1</sup>. Another source of data is household budget survey, carried out every year by the Central Statistical Office (CSO), which estimates expenses on medicines in households from various socio-economic groups, using a representative sample of households, which includes all groups (employees, farmers, self-employed, retired, pensioners).*

**Keywords:** *health care, expenditure on medicines, spatial diversification, spatial dynamic, shift-share analysis.*

**JEL Classification:** *D12, I11, I18, H50.*

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<sup>1</sup> In Poland, data presented for regions, voivodships, subregions, powiats and gminas correspond to levels 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistical Purposes (NTS), compiled on the basis of the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) obligatory in countries of the European Union. Voivodships (=provinces in EU) are units used here in the spatial analysis of private expenses on medicines.