

## **ANALYSIS OF MEDICINES FOR THE PREVENTION OF UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT DISEASES**

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Acute respiratory viral infections are one of the most common reasons for seeking medical attention in the industrialized world. Of the approximately 100 million antibiotic prescriptions written each year for the treatment of acute respiratory viral infections, half are prescribed inappropriately. Inappropriate prescribing of antibiotics for viral diseases poses a serious threat, as many organisms have become resistant to commonly used antibiotics.

The aim of this study was to investigate the market for medicines used to treat acute respiratory viral infections according to current practice guidelines in order to reduce the number of inappropriately prescribed antibiotics in primary care clinics.

Acute viral upper respiratory tract infections are one of the most common reasons for seeking medical attention in Ukraine, with the majority of outpatient visits each year being for cough or sore throat. Most of these episodes are caused by viruses, and in otherwise healthy people these infections are usually short-lived and resolve without any intervention other than supportive care at home. Although these illnesses are managed largely with supportive care, millions of patients continue to be seen by health care professionals and prescribed antibiotics inappropriately and contrary to current treatment guidelines.

The use of antibiotics for viral illnesses is ineffective and poses a serious threat both nationally and globally, as many organisms have become resistant to commonly used antibiotics.

A literature search confirmed that current guidelines for the treatment of uncomplicated respiratory infections suggest avoiding the use of antibiotics. There is substantial evidence for strategies to reduce inappropriate antibiotic use in response to the high volume of patients seeking care.

Currently, a fairly wide range of medicines is used to treat diseases of the upper respiratory tract in various forms.

The domestic market of soft nasal medicines is dominated by imported products, while domestic manufacturers account for a small percentage. These drugs belong to different pharmacological groups. Surveys conducted in the form of questionnaires allow us to conclude that these drugs are popular, as evidenced by the percentage of sales. The greatest demand is for drugs with a complex effect.

We also analysed the market for medicines for the treatment of upper respiratory tract diseases, which contain essential oils as active pharmaceutical ingredients. It should be noted that the drugs are presented in various dosage forms (tablets, aerosol, ointment, drops, powder, syrup, gel, solution, balm). Tablets, aerosol, ointment and drops with essential oils have the highest percentage by quantity (15%), and balms have the lowest (4%).

Thus, it can be concluded that the Ukrainian pharmaceutical market lacks domestic soft-form medicinal products that would have a therapeutic effect, prolonged effect and relieve the manifestations of bronchitis. That is why it is important to develop a new domestic soft-form drug for the prevention of upper respiratory tract diseases.