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ANALYSIS OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL MARKET OF DRUGS FOR THE TREATMENT OF DEMENTIA IN UKRAINE

One of the most vulnerable groups of the population today is people suffering from dementia in the world 57 million of them, 60% of whom live in low and middle-income countries. Every year, this figure unfortunately increases with new cases of dementia and amounts to almost 10 million. The most common form of dementia is Alzheimer's disease, accounting for 60-70% of cases [1,2]. The use of the general term dementia is applied to certain neurological disease conditions that affect the brain and worsen over time. Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common form of dementia diagnosed in people aged 65 and older [3]. Today, there are few new drug developments, but there are treatments that help control symptoms and slow the rate of cognitive decline or take certain steps to reduce risks.

The WHO Global Plan of Action 2017-2025 aims to guide the public health response to improve the lives of people with dementia, their caregivers and their families. The plan also provides a set of measures and actions to realize the vision of a world where dementia is prevented and people with dementia and their caregivers receive the care and support they need to give their lives meaning and content [6,7].

Ukraine, like many other countries around the world, is facing an increase in nervous system diseases due to a number of factors, including population aging, stress, unhealthy lifestyles and environmental issues. Despite the significant challenges, Ukrainian doctors and scientists are actively working to find effective methods of diagnosing, treating and preventing these diseases, and pharmacists are developing new medicines.

Material and Methods. Marketing analysis of the pharmaceutical market of Ukraine and offline and online surveys among medical and pharmaceutical professionals using computer programs "Microsoft Excel", "Microsoft Word", and their analogues "Google Sheets", "Google Docs".

Results and discussion. The rapid development of technology, globalization and socio-economic changes affect the psycho-emotional state of a person and are subject to various negative factors. International experience in the fight against diseases of the nervous system demonstrates the continuous development of methods of diagnosis, treatment and prevention of these pathologies [4,5]. In developed countries, a comprehensive system of care for patients with neurological diseases has been created, including both medical and social aspects. The adoption of experience and the development of new methods is an important step in preserving mental health and improving the quality of life in Ukraine in today's realities.

We conducted an analysis based on the recommendations set out in the unified clinical protocol: primary, secondary (specialized), tertiary (highly specialized) and palliative care for dementia. The range of domestic and foreign medicines used in the treatment of dementia has been studied and analyzed. Thus, 50 medicines are currently registered on the domestic market, including 41 foreign-made drugs 82% and 9 domestic-made drugs 18%.



Fig. 1. Pharmaceutical market of Ukraine for drugs by INN for the treatment of dementia

Figure 1 shows the medicines by international nonproprietary name (INN) registered on the Ukrainian pharmaceutical market and most often prescribed by doctors for the treatment of dementia, namely Cholinesterase (ChA). For a more detailed analysis, we conducted a survey among doctors and pharmacists, which included the following questions: which drugs are most often prescribed/dispensed and their doses. We interviewed 78 doctors, including psychiatrists, neurologists, and psychoneurologists. The survey showed that patients visit doctors at later stages of the disease, when they need memantine hydrochloride, rather than donepezil hydrochloride, which is prescribed at mild stages.

The issue of the price of dementia drugs is becoming extremely acute. Even relatively inexpensive medicines can be a significant financial problem for pensioners, and innovative drugs that can potentially have a greater impact on the course of the disease are often expensive. This leads to a situation where patients and their families are forced to make difficult choices between the necessary treatment and other life needs. Most visits to specialists come from the 75-85 age group, at which stage the disease often progresses, making symptoms more pronounced and complicating both the patient's life and care. At this age, patients are almost entirely dependent on the help of relatives or government support. Relying solely on the family's financial capabilities can lead to a significant depletion of the family budget, especially given the duration of the disease and the need for constant care.

Conclusions. The pharmacoeconomic analysis of the market of drugs for the treatment of dementia and other diseases of the nervous system revealed a limited range of available medicines in Ukraine compared to European countries. It was found that most of the registered drugs belong to the group of cholinesterase inhibitors and NMDA receptor antagonists. It has been found that the cost of a course of treatment for most patients with dementia is a significant proportion of the average monthly income, which significantly limits the availability of therapy.

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