#### **REVIEW ARTICLE**

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# DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF FUNCTIONING OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE SERVICE OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF UKRAINE

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#### ABSTRACT

The aim: Conducting a scientific analysis of domestic and foreign sources of information on modern views on the organization and implementation of preventive measures among the personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine.

Materials and methods: Used methods of historical-bibliographic and systematic approach.

**Conclusions:** The article defines the structure, tasks and functions of the Center for Preventive Medicine of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in accordance with current legislation and substantiates the feasibility of reforming the preventive medicine service to monitor the health of servicemen, environment and dangerous or harmful factors.

KEY WORDS: preventive medicine, military medicine, health of servicemen, system of epidemiological surveillance of Ukraine

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#### INTRODUCTION

In recent years, due to the radical changes in the politics, economy and strategy of military security and defense of Ukraine, the significant changes in the power ministries and departments of the state regarding their transition to NATO standards have taken place. According to the Strategic Defense Bulletin of Ukraine, the purpose of defense reform in the country is to acquire and maintain the required level of combat readiness and ability to perform state defense tasks, effectively respond to emerging military threats and military-political challenges to national security, increase the compatibility of all military formations with units of NATO and EU member states to perform common tasks in international peacekeeping and security operations [1,2]. The changes that have taken place in recent years in the military formations of Ukraine have determined the directions and ways of transformation in military prevention medicine.

Ukraine, as a member of the United Nations, has joined the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through the development of appropriate national strategic objectives, paying special attention to ensuring the epidemiological well-being of the population [3-7].

In the field of legal regulation of sanitary and epidemic welfare, the Constitution of Ukraine, the Fundamentals of Legislation of Ukraine on Health Care, the Civil Protection Code of Ukraine, the laws of Ukraine «On Ensuring Sanitary and Epidemic Welfare», «On Protection of Infectious Diseases», «On combating the spread of diseases caused by human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and legal and social protection of people living with HIV», «On the basic principles and requirements for food safety and quality», «On general safety of non-food products», and other legislative acts are applied.

The liquidation of the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Service of Ukraine [8] raised the issue of updating and legislative definition of the system of epidemiological surveillance in Ukraine, its readiness to respond to emergencies of natural and man-made nature. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the need and importance of a system that will provide monitoring, surveillance, response and forecasting to protect public health.

The annexation of Crimea, the military aggression of the Russian Federation in eastern Ukraine forced the leadership of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine and other law enforcement agencies and departments to take extraordinary measures reforming the Preventive Medicine Service in armed forces.

It is known that the main efforts of preventive medicine specialists in the United States and NATO countries are aimed at maintaining the required level of health and combat capability of military personnel through the implementation of healthy lifestyle programs, sanitary and anti-epidemic measures, physical training, protection against harmful factors, connected with profession [9-15]. In the current conditions, the problem of preserving and strengthening the health of servicemen is becoming a priority. In its decision, along with the command and structures that ensure the functioning of the units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, an important role belongs to the medical service and its preventive focus.

### THE AIM

The aim of the work is to conduct a scientific analysis of domestic and foreign sources of information on modern views on the organization and implementation of preventive measures among the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine.

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Based on a study of domestic and foreign sources of information on the features of the preventive medicine service, an analytical review of the literature and analysis of the legal framework for the formation and operation of the Preventive Medicine Service in the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine was conducted. Historical, bibliographic and system approach method were used.

### **REVIEW AND DISCUSSION**

The Preventive Medicine Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine operates within the structure of the Department of Health and Rehabilitation, which is a structural unit implementing the state policy of the Ministry in the field of departmental health care.

The main tasks of the Department are:

- 1. Information, consultative, expert and analytical, legal, organizational and other support of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on the formation and implementation of the state policy in the field of a healthcare.
- 2. Development, organization and control over a set of preventive, curative, health and rehabilitation measures aimed at protecting and promoting the health of the people who, according to the law, have the right for medical care.
- 3. Monitoring compliance with the law, organizational and methodological management of the health care facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.
- 4. Coordination and control of the implementation of targeted and long-term programs, the implementation of which is entrusted to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, in terms of formation and implementation of state policy in the field of healthcare.

The State Institution «The Center for Preventive Medicine of the Ministry of Internal Affairs», the Central Medical (Military Medical) Commission of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Central Polyclinic of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Central Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, medical rehabilitation centers, the state institution «Center for Psychiatric Care and Professional Psychophysiological Selection of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine», territorial medical associations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine by regions, the city of Kyiv, the State Hospital of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in the city of Kryvyi Rih are directly subordinated to the Department.

Each territorial medical association in the field is subordinated to: The hospital/hospital with polyclinic, medical (military medical) commission, center of psychiatric care and professional psychophysiological selection, center of preventive medicine are subordinate to every territorial medical association.

The medical units of higher educational establishments of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine are subordinate for protection of health and sanitary-anti-epidemic protection of the Department.

To solve the issues of control and selection of those who have the right for medical rehabilitation, sanatorium and health resort treatment and health improvement in the Department the Medical Examination Committee is functioning.

The main activities of departmental health care institutions are the provision of high-quality and special medical assistance, medical rehabilitation, general and sanatorium-and-spa treatment to those who are defined by orders of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

According to the Law of Ukraine «On Ensuring Sanitary and Epidemic Welfare of the Population» (as amended), the Order of the Ministry of Internal Affairs «On the State Institution «The Center for Preventive Medicine of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine», in order to ensure sanitary and epidemic well-being of the military men in the Ministry of Internal Affairs on subordinate territories, facilities, military units and subdivisions, the department of sanitary and epidemiological control (Center for Preventive Medicine) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was created, the Regulations on the Department of Sanitary and Epidemiological Control (Center for Preventive Medicine) of the State Institution «Internal Ukraine», which determines the structure and organization of the preventive medicine service of the department, were approved [16, 17].

The Department of Sanitary and Epidemiological Control of the State Institution «The Principal Medical Center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine» is a sanitary and preventive institution of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, established to ensure sanitary and epidemiological well-being of those entitled to medical care in the health facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

In its activities, the Center is guided by the Constitution of Ukraine, laws of Ukraine, acts of the President of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, orders of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Healthcare and other regulations on the provision of sanitary and epidemiological well-being of the population.

The department is a part of the State Institution «The principal Medical Center of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine».

The structure and staff list of the Department within the Principal Medical Center is approved by the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the manner prescribed by law. The structure of the sanitary-epidemiological control includes the sanitary-hygienic department with the laboratory and a radiological department and the epidemiological department with a bacteriological laboratory.

The department is headed by the chief, who is appointed and dismissed by the chief of the Principal Medical Center in agreement with the head of the Department of Health and Rehabilitation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Other categories of employees are duly appointed, dismissed, moved from position to position by the head of the Principal Medical Center in accordance with the law.

The department coordinates the activities of preventive medicine centers, which are sanitary and preventive institutions within the territorial medical associations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The main tasks of the Department are to monitor the sanitary and epidemiological well-being provision of individuals and to determine priority measures for the prevention of infectious and non-communicable diseases, radiation injuries among those, who are legally entitled to get medical care in health facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Specialists of this unit determine the environmental factors that negatively affect the health of people who, in accordance with the law, have the right to receive medical care in health care facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The functions performed by the Department are to carry out sanitary and epidemiological surveillance in territorial bodies for the provision of services, in institutions, establishments and enterprises belonging to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the National Police of Ukraine, military authorities, formations, military units (subdivisions), higher military educational institution, educational military units (centers), on the bases and in institutions belonging to the sphere of management of the National Guard of Ukraine, stationed on the territory of the city of Kyiv and Kyiv region.

In order to reduce the level of morbidity among the personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the specialists of the Center for Preventive Medicine study, analyze, assess the health indicators of those who have the right to receive medical care in health care facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and forecast the sanitary and epidemic situation. Primary records of infectious diseases, mass non-communicable diseases (poisonings) and radiation injuries and acute professional diseases among personnel are kept.

It is mandatory to conduct epidemiological investigations, establish the causes and conditions of occurrence and spread of infectious diseases, mass non-communicable diseases (poisonings) and radiation injuries of those who have the right to receive medical care in health care facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

As a result of the work, the management of the Principal Medical Center and the Department of Health and Rehabilitation are informed about the sanitary and epidemic situation.

The functional responsibilities of the employees of the Department include conducting an analysis of the state of

the disinsection in the territorial bodies for the provision of services, institutions, establishments and enterprises belonging to the sphere of management of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

According to NATO standards, the Center for Preventive Medicine monitors environmental and health factors of those, who, in accordance with the law, have the right to receive medical care in health care facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, established by laws and regulations of the Ministry of health of Ukraine.

The laboratories of the Center perform laboratory tests, measurements for the needs of preventive and current state sanitary and epidemiological surveillance, during epidemiological investigations, and carry out research of samples of biological material from clinical bacteriology for the needs of health facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Precursors approved for use in Ukraine are used and stored.

In case of threat of occurrence or spread of especially dangerous and dangerous infectious diseases, mass non-infectious diseases (poisonings) or radiation lesions, the Department introduces preventive measures according to the Law of Ukraine "On Protection of the Population from Infectious Diseases" and monitors their implementation. Also, the Department makes proposals on the need to introduce special conditions and regimes, restrictive measures aimed at preventing the emergence and spread of diseases, localization and elimination of outbreaks and epidemics.

One of the functions of the department is to conduct a comprehensive study and evaluation of design and technical documentation for the development, manufacture and use of the new machinery, equipment, other tools and products, new technologies in accordance with sanitary requirements and participation in approval of such documentation.

Also, the categories of workers engaged in heavy work, work with harmful or dangerous working conditions are defined, or those where there is a need for professional selection, which are subject to prior (periodic) medical examination, approval of lists of employees subject to periodic medical examinations and control over timeliness and completeness of medical examinations of certain categories of employees. Particular attention is paid to compliance with the schedule of medical examinations of health care facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

In its daily work, the Department carries out planned and unscheduled state sanitary and epidemiological supervision and control over compliance with the requirements of sanitary legislation and the implementation of preventive measures as to:

- design, construction, reconstruction and commissioning of buildings, development of new technologies, materials, products, etc.;
- facilities, environmental factors that affect people who, in accordance with the law, have the right to receive medical care in health care facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, including biological, chemical, and

determine the conditions of their residence, nutrition, work, recreation, training, education, training and workload, etc.;

- organization and implementation of preventive vaccinations of people who, in accordance with the law, have the right to receive medical care in healthcare facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, compliance with sanitary and anti-epidemic regime in treatment and prevention establishments of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and prevention of nosocomial infections;
- organization of disinfection, disinsection and deratization works in the subordinated territories, in military units and subdivisions.

In its activities, the Department interacts with health care institutions of Kyiv and Kyiv region on the issues related to ensuring the sanitary and epidemiological well-being of the population, other institutions, agencies, organizations, relations with which are necessary for the performance of official duties, Central Polyclinic of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, State Institution «Territorial Medical Association of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Kyiv and Kyiv region».

The department cooperates with the medical and diagnostic departments of the hospital on providing consultations on the sanitary and anti-epidemic regime, conducting bacteriological tests for them, as well as with other departments of the institution to address production issues.

## CONCLUSIONS

The analysis of current legislation governing the organization and implementation of sanitary and epidemiological surveillance, confirmed the feasibility of reforming the preventive medicine service and proved the need for introducing the set of measures to monitor the health of servicemen, the environment and service, its dangerous and harmful factors, which affect or may affect the health of the personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine.

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#### **Conflict of interest:**

The Authors declare no conflict of interest.

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