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BIOLOGICAL RISK FACTORS IN PREHOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE SERVICES IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Introduction

Prehospital emergency care services are a critical part of health care and are subject to many safety threats. Healthcare workers undertake their jobs a wide range of activities related to patient care, in various workplaces and circumstances, potentially hazardous to health. Many types of work activities involve hazards for workers, and biological risk is especially important among them. Biological risk assessment has always been the main goal on which the efforts of occupational medicine have been concentrated, especially in the health field. Bioaerosols and dust are considered important carriers of microorganisms when interacting with others.

Aims

The purpose of this study was the biological risk assessment in prehospital emergency care services in the Republic of Moldova.

Research Methods

The questionnaire approved by the Ethics Committee of Nicolae Testemitanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, was used to assess the working conditions, including biological risk, of physicians and nurses of prehospital emergency care services in the Republic of Moldova

Results

As part of the study, an assessment was made of the working conditions and biological risk of medical personnel of mobile service teams from urban and rural areas, regardless of gender, nationality, ethnicity or religion. The total number of participants in the survey was 260 medical workers, 79% nurses and 21% physicians. Of the total, number of respondents, 86% were men and 14% women, 51% people in urban areas and 49% in rural.

Health care workers are a category of workers at high risk of infection. Thus, the data obtained showed that 74% respondents indicated the existence of a very high risk of occupational disease, 22% health workers they attributed it to low risk, and 4% subjects mentioned that they do not know what the occupational risk of illness is.

Also, it was found that during the period of the pandemic, 64% of medical workers were infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus at the workplace, of which 26% physicians and 74% nurses, this is due to the specifics of work, being at the forefront in the fight against the pandemic exposed to a high risk of infection through contact with patients with COVID-19, when communicating with relatives of victims, potentially infected etc. The vast majority of 94% of respondents indicated the presence of professional contact with biological factors - viruses, bacteria, fungi. In this context the, 80% of those surveyed mentioned that they have enough protective equipment, provided by the institution where they work, and 20% believe that there is insufficient protective equipment, which considerably increases the risk of infection.

At the same time, the data obtained, indicate the presence of chronic diseases in 35% medical workers, the most common being chronic gastritis, pancreatitis, ulcer indicated by 18% respondents, hypertension suffered by 18% medical workers and 6% participants in the study mentioned bronchitis, chronic sinusitis, allergy etc.

Conclusion

Prehospital emergency care services is an important part of health care, but is subject to many security threats and despite the fact that in recent years there has been an improvement in working conditions and the modernization of medical institutions of Republic of Moldova, in terms of occupational health and safety, it remains a little studied area, but an important and priority one. Given the essential role of health in the life of every person and appreciating the increased work of medical workers, it is necessary to focus on improving the state policy, ensuring a high social status of the medical personnel. Biological risk requires an integrated approach to risk assessment and risk management, which is complicated by the wide variety of biological agents, work environments and work practices that can determine exposure. It is also very important and necessary to develop an effective system of measures to prevent and combat occupational diseases of the medical personnel of the ambulance teams in the Republic of Moldova.

PROGNOSTIC CONSEQUENCES OF THE HOSTILITIES IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

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The deviant behavior of Russia made millions of people of our country suffer, provoking an armed conflict that caused a huge number of deaths and disability of the military and civilian population of Ukraine. The war forced people to leave their homes and become internally displaced persons. The destruction of health care