

IMPROVEMENT OF FUTURE PHARMACISTS PREPARATION FOR PASSING THE LICENSE INTEGRATED EXAM «KROK-1. PHARMACY»

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Taking into consideration the demand of the society in the competent specialists preparing, the problem of standardization and formalization of the student progress level assessment system has been raised. In view of the fact passing the license integrated exams (LIE) by students is relevant in the system of pharmaceutical education.

Taking into account the issue we have aimed to identify the problems of students preparation for the LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy» and to define the organizational and pedagogical conditions (OPC) which would improve of future pharmacists preparation for this exam.

LIE are standardized test methods of pedagogical diagnostics and are the part of the students majoring in pharmacy state attestation. It is the successful passing LIE that is one of the indicators which determines the quality of pharmaceutical education and its conformity to the State standards of higher education and establishes a minimum level of the professional competence of the appropriate educational qualification specialist.

The system LIE for the specialists with higher pharmaceutical education includes two separate tests «Krok-1» and «Krok-2». The LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy» is the test exam in the fundamental disciplines, and it is passed at the end of the 4th year after the fundamental disciplines having been studied. It includes 8 disciplines such as analytical chemistry, biological chemistry, microbiology, organic chemistry, pathological physiology, pharmacology, pharmaceutical botany and physical and colloid chemistry.

The exam is carried out in writing (blank) form and consists of 200 tests from the so-called examination booklet. Each booklet consists of two units, the first one contains «anchor» tests used in previous years, and the second one contains tests from a closed data bank. 60.5% of correct test answers indicate that a student has passed the exam.

The questionnaire survey conducted among the students and teachers of the pharmaceutical faculty has shown the following problems of future pharmacists preparation for the LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy»:

- the inability of most students to carry out preparation independently;
- the lack of teachers consultative assistance in the process of preparation;

- insufficient attention is paid to individual approach to each student during the preparation for the LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy».

- students preparation focusing on the «learning» test questions, and not on understanding them;

- the existing test base imperfection for preparation;

- the lack of an additional time to prepare for the LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy» and its implementation only as a part of educational process;

- the lack of knowledge «survival»;

- students formal attitude both to the preparation process and to the exam.

Proceeding from the above we consider it is expedient to develop OPC which would improve the future pharmacists preparation to the passing LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy». In this context the following is proposed:

- to develop teaching manuals with the test tasks separated on the topics and information blocks united with them and containing the basic concepts and regularities used in the LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy».

- to conduct regular consultations on which discussing test tasks often encountered in the examination booklets and mistakes students often made;

- to contribute to the databases for self-study training for LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy» created by the students.

- to introduce a mechanism of peer-tutoring that means the assistance of the advanced students to the so-called «risk group»;

- to create an individual training schedule for each student to prepare for the LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy» with regard to his level of educational achievements and «weak points»;

- to monitor the current level of students preparation not only with the help of computer testing at the departments, but also by means of a written test where a student should choose the correct answer and substantiate it;

- to discuss in the concluding part of the seminars and practical classes test tasks referring the topic being studied;

- to introduce the elective class on which one must pay attention to highlighting the key issues necessary for the solution of test tasks and filling gaps in the studying disciplines included in the LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy».

All the measures proposed should be systematic and planned and that will contribute to the successful passing the LIE «Krok-1. Pharmacy» by future pharmacists.